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AN  
**INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS,**  
ON OCCASION OF THE OPENING  
OF THE  
GENERAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
OF THE  
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

DELIVERED IN

Trinity Church, in the City of New-York, on Monday  
Evening, the 11th of March, 1822.

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BY JOHN HENRY HOBART, D. D.

Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of New-York, and  
Professor of Pastoral Theology and Pulpit Eloquence.

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1822.

THE first thing that strikes the eye is a sub-  
ject of real consequence. An institution or-  
ganized by the Church in her highest legisla-  
tive capacity with a solemnity and authority  
that could not have been anticipated, has com-  
menced its operations in the city under ex-  
penses that promise not to dissipate the ex-  
pectations of the disappointed. It is the  
the sacred school in which are to be trained  
the youth of the cross, we hope to the last  
generations. It is the fountain, whence we  
draw, its living waters from the throne of God,  
whence we are to proceed, that we may  
truth and knowledge that are to follow and  
gladden the Zion of the Lord, the city of our

1770-1822—  
1848

Feb. 22, 1848

## ADDRESS.

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**T**HE event that calls us together is a subject of real congratulation. An institution, organized by the Church in her highest legislative council with a unanimity and cordiality that could not have been anticipated, has commenced its operations in this city under auspices that promise not to disappoint the expectations of its founders and patrons. Here is the sacred school in which are to be trained the heralds of the cross, we hope, to the latest generations. Here is the fountain, drawing, we trust, its living waters from the throne of God, whence are to proceed those streams of divine truth and knowledge that are to refresh and gladden the Zion of the Lord, the city of our



God. When we look back to the changes and difficulties, may I not say,—

*Varios casus, et tot discrimina rerum,*

through which our course has tended to this happy consummation, were this an heathen temple, and we the ignorant worshippers of the powers that rule the destinies of the world, we should have less than pagan piety if we did not here rear an altar, and hymn the strains of gratitude to

“*Diis faventibus*”—the favouring Gods.

But witnessing in the event that now calls us together, so propitious to the future welfare of the Church, (to use the memorable words of an Episcopal Father\* in grateful reference to the happy termination of this most important and much agitated business,) “a verifying of the promise of the great Head of the Church, of his being with her alway, even to the end of the world;” surely we cannot fail to pour forth the devout effusions of our souls. “Hitherto hath the Lord helped us”—“Let us give thanks unto his name.”

At the opening then of the institution under its new organization, the result of a spirit of

\* Bishop White, of Pennsylvania.

honourable compromise, which (again to use the words of the same venerable Episcopal Father) “merged local attachments in the great object of the general good,”\* and which, having gratified the reasonable wishes of all, unites the hearts of all; it would seem proper, with the view of confirming our confidence and affection, and animating our zeal and exertions, to consider the General Theological Seminary of our Church, in reference

To its OBJECTS,

To its PRINCIPLES,

To its RESULTS, and

To its MEANS.

\* It is due to the Bishops and delegates of the eastern diocese and of Connecticut, to state, that though from local considerations they must have preferred the continuance of the seminary at New-Haven, they supported in the Convention, on the grounds of the general good of the Church, its removal to New-York. The Bishop of the Church in Connecticut in particular, was cordial in his promotion of that measure, and his exertions active and influential. Having earnestly advocated, for reasons which, detailed elsewhere, it is unnecessary here to repeat, the establishment of a diocesan seminary in New-York, I trust I may be permitted to observe, that the measure of the consolidation of this with the general seminary on *correct principles*, was suggested in my address to the Convention of that diocese, which met a short time before the General Convention, and received their unanimous approbation: and that the constitution of the general seminary, as finally adopted by the General Convention, is in all its essential features that which was advocated on the part of New-York in the committee who reported it. These circumstances are mentioned as evidence that the diocese of New-York was not backward in the great measure of general conciliation on this interesting subject.

The OBJECTS which it proposes are,

A *learned* ministry,

An *orthodox* ministry,

A *pious* ministry, and

A *practical* ministry.

A *learned* ministry—

Learned in *human science*—but especially in that which is strictly *theological*.

The Christian minister, “giving himself wholly to his office, applying himself to this one thing, and drawing all his studies this way,”\* must value human science, and seek its attainment, principally on account of its subserviency to the cause of divine truth. And in this view, and with this motive, there is no branch of knowledge which, in different degrees, according to its more immediate application to the great objects of the ministry, the minister of Christ ought not to cultivate, as his means and opportunities may admit.

In the seminary which we now present to your notice, we trust will be nurtured up *scribes*, furnished in all things, human and divine, for the work of their Master. Those, well acquainted with the book of nature, and able from it to illustrate and enforce the word of God—Those, skilled in the original and re-

\* Ordination Office.



lated languages in which that word was promulgated, and thus competent in all cases to vindicate the integrity of the sacred text, and accurately to ascertain, and conclusively to defend its genuine meaning—Those, able, from their knowledge of history and its connected sciences, to show the harmony between the narrations and the facts in the sacred volume, and the occurrences and particulars that strike us in the profane records of nations—Those, conversant in that luminous internal and external evidence which establishes and attests the truth of Christianity, against all the objections of scepticism; and in that interesting science of ethical and intellectual philosophy, which, setting forth the various views of moral obligation, reduces them all to the standard of the will of the supreme Lawgiver, the Maker, the Sovereign, and the Judge of his intellectual creatures; and which, tracing through their minute and intricate, but important operations, the powers of the human mind, proves from analysis what revelation supposes and asserts, the freedom and the accountability of the immaterial and immortal agent within us—Those, thoroughly versed in the pandects which exhibit the various controversies concerning the sublime truths of theology, and which, from the chaos in which the fallible reason, and the corrupt pride and passion of the human mind have involv-

ed them, luminously educe and arrange the essential principles of Christian verity, and fix them bright and stable as the throne of the Eternal—Those, familiar with the principles of that society which its divine Founder constituted as his Church, the channel of his mercy and grace to the world, and with all the varying events which alternately plunged it in suffering, or elevated it with triumph ; obscured it with heresy, or brightened it with truth ; rent it with schism, or united it in apostolic peace and order ; disfigured it with superstition, or adorned it with the primitive beauties of holiness—Those, imbued with that ancient and modern lore which strengthens the mind with those just opinions, enriches the imagination with that splendid imagery, and refines the taste with those exquisite delicacies of sentiment and language, which, when aiding sacred eloquence, make it sometimes the master of the heart, that would not do homage to its native power—Those, furnished with the rules and models by which excellence is attained in the art of composition, and which are transferred and applied to the theological dissertation or the practical sermon ; and intimately acquainted with all those means by which pastoral intercourse is to be rendered successful in ministering to the spiritual wants, and to the consolation and happiness of the Christian flock. This is the learning which, we

trust, growing with the growth and strengthening with the strength of our infant institution, will render its sacred scholars the conclusive vindicators of the divine origin of the religion which they teach; the able expositors of its hallowed code, and promulgers and defenders of its doctrines; profound, eloquent, practical “ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.”

For to form *orthodox*, as well as learned clergymen, will be the object of this seminary.

Orthodox, not according to individual opinion, but to those principles which, drawn from the sacred oracles, and receiving the sanction of the great body of Christians in every age, and handed down from the Apostles’ times, are embodied in the articles and liturgy, and illustrated in the homilies of the Church. The doctrines which shine conspicuous in these venerable formularies, and which are expressed in them with a simplicity, force, and pathos, that render them universally interesting as standards of truth and guides of devotion, it will be the great object of this seminary to inculcate, to explain, and to defend. Acquainted with their evidences, their nature, and practical importance, with the danger of the errors that have obscured them, with the fallacy of the objections that have assailed them, we trust the clergy here educated will be conspicuous, and firm, and



persevering teachers of those doctrines which constitute the Gospel the power of God unto salvation—of the truth which lies at the basis of this sacred system, the corruption and sinfulness of man, attested by his heart and his conscience, by observation and experience—of his recovery from this lapsed state, and his restoration to the forfeited favour of his Maker, through a lively and operative faith in the divine mediation of that eternal Son of the Father, who, sustaining the penalties and performing the requisitions of the divine law, vindicated the infinite justice and holiness of the divine government; and thus making atonement for iniquity, is mighty to save us from our sins, being God over all; and is touched with a feeling for our infirmities, being man, clothed with our nature—of the incomprehensible, but powerful influences of that divine Spirit, by which, in perfect consistency with the free powers of the human mind, its errors are rectified, its corrupt passions renewed, and all its powers and principles devoted to the service of the first and best of Beings, the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of man, and to the “love of the things which he commands, and to the pursuit of that which he does promise”—and finally, of the necessity of union with the ministry, in the participation of the ordinances of that spiritual society, the body of Christ,

through which, from him, its head, the merits of his obedience and death, and the efficacy of his divine grace, are applied and conveyed to the faithful. These are the truths which, strictly evangelical, proclaiming as they do the glad tidings of pardon, and holiness, and immortality, to guilty, corrupt, and perishing man, and agreeable, as far as reason can comprehend them, to all her dictates, and exalting and confirming all her wishes and hopes, we trust, the institution, whose organization we now celebrate, will send forth heralds to proclaim with fidelity, with fervour, and with triumph to the world.

And to do this, they must have experienced the renovating and holy efficacy of these truths on their own minds, and hearts, and lives.

The ministry here educated must be a *pious* ministry.

It must be a *pious* ministry, or all its learning, and all its orthodoxy, will be but “as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.” We may display, brethren of the clergy, the learning of Gamaliel and the eloquence of Paul; we may even preach with the fervour and the force of the seraph; but if our tempers and our lives prove that the truths and duties which we inculcate have no efficacy on our own characters and conduct, is it in human nature to regard our instructions, or to profit by our exhortations?

Let, then, the banner with which every herald of the cross who is here trained advances to the work of his Master, bear the lustrous inscription, *Holiness unto the Lord*. Let his holiness be that which is derived from the principle of an enlightened and firm faith in the truths and promises of the Gospel—that which is excited, and strengthened, and preserved by constant dependance on the secret but powerful influences of the divine Spirit enlightening the thoughts of his mind, confirming the purposes of his will, sanctifying the affections of his heart, and leading him, the foremost of his flock, in the ways of God's laws, and in the works of God's commandments. Let it be a holiness, which, enabling him to rejoice in the testimony of a conscience void of offence, and in the hope of the divine favour, presents constantly that serene, that peaceful, that cheerful, and yet that dignified aspect, which secures admiration, while it sheds around its celestial serenity, its peace, its cheerfulness, its dignity. Let it be a holiness, which, prompting in all circumstances the *right* purpose, unappalled by opposition, undismayed by odium, meekly and prudently, but firmly pursues that purpose to its failure or to its accomplishment—

Justum et tenacem propositi ———  
 Non civium ardor prava jubentium,  
 Non vultus instantis tyranni,  
 Mente quatit solida.



Let it be a holiness, which, the bright example of the patient endurance of the trials of life, and the moderate and thankful enjoyment of its numerous blessings, while it sojourns, contented and cheerful, in this vale of its probation below, lifts its aspiring eye to that lofty region of unmingled felicity for which it is destined, and draws from thence its most triumphant consolations and its purest joys. Let this be the holiness with which, through the divine blessing, this seminary invests its pupils; and they will teach, and they will preach, the most impressive lessons in their tempers, in their deportment, in their lives.

And yet one characteristic more must distinguish them to consummate their usefulness—they must be *practical* ministers.

*Practical*—as it respects the judicious application of their talents and knowledge to *preaching*, and to the discharge of *parochial duties*.

In *preaching*, carefully avoiding all needless exhibition of critical skill, all those ingenious and refined speculations, and all those meretricious arts of gesture or of style, which seek, and can answer no other purpose than to advance personal fame and secure popular applause; and presenting the truth as it is in Christ Jesus, according to the varying circumstances of their flocks, with all the illustrations indeed which useful learning can furnish, with

all the force which just reasoning can urge, with all the ornaments which a correct imagination can suggest, and with all the grace and energy which an impassioned elocution can inspire, but with that simplicity which, in

“ Man or woman, but most of all

“ In man, that ministers

“ In sacred things,”

delights and charms, and in the preacher edifies and triumphs; for it proves, in all, the entire absence of every selfish or sinister motive; and in the preacher, the total forgetfulness of himself in the overwhelming and supreme solicitude to save the souls of those to whom he preaches. And,

Practical also must the minister be in the judicious application of his talents and knowledge to the discharge of his *parochial* duties—in establishing the religious principles of the young, by catechetical lecturing and instruction—in dispensing to the sick and the afflicted the warnings and the consolations with which his Master has charged him—in removing the doubts of the wavering, answering the cavils of the sceptical, correcting the errors of the uninformed or the perverse, admonishing the careless and the secure, guarding the weak, and fortifying the timid—and in administering to the edification and the comfort of all, accord-

ing to their respective circumstances, by pastoral counsel and friendly conversation.

Learning and orthodoxy may enable him with whom the charge of the sacred oracles is committed, to prove their divine origin, to illustrate and to explain their meaning, to unfold their hidden beauties, to exhibit, and to maintain, and to vindicate their doctrines against all the objections with which they may be assailed by the pride and power of human talent, or the corrupt passions of the human heart. And happy the Church whose endowments, while they furnish the means of thus providing learned and orthodox champions of the Christian faith, afford to them the leisure uninterruptedly and solely to devote themselves to the task of defending its momentous truths. But it is only under ministers thus *practical* that learning, and orthodoxy, and piety will be instrumental in enlarging the fold of Christ, and in bringing the flock committed to the Christian pastor to that "ripeness and perfectness of age in Christ, so that there be no place left among them for error in religion or for viciousness in life."\* And it can scarcely be necessary to mention, that in the peculiar circumstances of our own country, where an enterprising population advances into the uncultivated wilds far beyond the provisions

\* Ordination Office.



that exist for their religious instruction, a practical ministry must appear of peculiar and indispensable importance.

A learned, an orthodox, a pious, and a practical ministry are the *objects* of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

What are the PRINCIPLES by which the institution is to be guided in the attainment of these objects?

These principles may be viewed—

In reference to the *general administration* of the institution; and

In reference to the important business of *instruction*.

It must be obvious, that an institution having in charge the training of the ministry, and thus deeply affecting the interest of the whole Church, ought to be conducted on principles that secure to every diocese an influence proportioned to its numbers, and to the contributions which it offers; and also to the various orders in the Church their just weight in its concerns. This arrangement affords the best security for such an administration of the affairs of the institution, as will secure the confidence and the support of those who are interested in it, and the peace and order of the Church at large. And

happy are we to say, that these principles are recognized in the constitution by which the seminary is to be governed, and in the mode particularly by which the board of trustees is constituted. In this body, power is so distributed among the bishops, the clergy, and the laity, as to afford the highest security for a judicious management of the concerns of an institution, in which are essentially involved the purity, the prosperity, and the stability of our Church.

The *instruction* pursued in the institution, we trust, will ever keep in view, the *truths* of *Scripture*, as maintained by the *Church universal*, and professed in this apostolic *branch* of it ; and the *ministry*, and *ordinances*, and *worship*, which, as to their essential parts, have the same divine and primitive authority.

That particular churches, that particular communities of Christians may err, and have erred in the interpretation of the sacred writings, it would be absurd to deny. But that the Church universal, that the great body of Christians in the *early ages*, and in all places, erroneously interpreted the sense of Scripture, it would be equally irrational to maintain. This would prove, that the Bible is indeed a sealed book, and that its meaning cannot be ascertained. Credible witnesses as the primitive Fathers of the Church were, as to matters of fact, from their acknowledged fidelity and piety,

whatever in relation to matters of opinion may have been in some cases their erroneous views, wherever we find them concurring in the fact of the prevalence of a doctrine or institution, without any notice of its introduction, we refer that doctrine to the Bible, and that institution, if not to the same sacred origin, to apostolic practice. The rule of faith which Vincent of Lerins, a Christian writer of the fifth century, lays down, of believing whatever was received—“*semper, ubique, ab omnibus,*” *always, every where, and by the great body* of Christians—makes the Church universal of the *early ages* the safe expositor of holy writ, while it destroys the claims of particular Churches to credibility, when opposed to this universal faith; and utterly subverts the claims to infallibility of the Church of Rome. It is on this principle that our Church receives the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds, which were early received in the Church universal, as authentic summaries of Christian doctrine. And taking these as more fully drawn out in her articles and liturgy, for the standard of Christian truth, our theological seminary, thus receiving the doctrines of Scripture as exhibited in the faith of the first ages, and handed down to the present times, will be preserved from those heresies which, though they appeared in the Church at an early period, were then condemned as pestilent corruptions of the Gos-



pel, and have since, at particular times, deformed portions of those who bear the Christian name.

The ministry, as subsisting in three orders, with the power, exclusively in the first order, of supremacy in government, and of transmitting from the divine Head of the Church the commission which is essential to the exercise of the ministry; and the ordinances and worship that distinguish her, our Church maintains on the ground, that they are in all essential parts agreeable to Scripture, and supported by the best commentary on Scripture, the practice of the first and purest ages of Christianity. It will be the duty, and it will prove the safety and the happiness, we trust, of all who are concerned in this institution, either as instructors or as pupils, to seek for "the old paths, for the good way, and to walk therein."\*

\* The study of the Fathers of the Church, is recommended in the course of theological study established by the House of Bishops "as one of the best expedients for guarding the student against many errors of modern times;" and the same sentiment is thus forcibly expressed by a divine of the Church of England, the Rev. William Reeves, whose invaluable treatise on "the right use of the Fathers," prefixed to his translation of the *Apologies of Justin Martyr, &c. &c.* should be carefully studied by every candidate for holy orders. "I would wish to infuse an ambitious warmth in the younger clergy of entering upon the study of divinity, with the *Scriptures* in conjunction with the *Fathers*, and to form their notions and fashion their minds by the doctrine and example of *Christ* and his *apostles*, and the noble army of *martyrs*; and not to take up, and quench their thirst with the corrupted streams of modern systems." *Rev. Wm. Reeves, on the right use of the Fathers*, page 79.

What may we expect will be the RESULTS of an institution, conducted on the PRINCIPLES, and attaining the OBJECTS which have been exhibited to you?

We anticipate the most exalted RESULTS—

In the promotion of the best interests of *society*,

In advancing the *spiritual interests* of mankind, and

In securing the extension and prosperity of *our own Church*.

In providing a learned, orthodox, pious, and practical ministry, you provide for *society* firm supporters of its laws and its order, able teachers, both by precept and example, of all those virtues and duties which strengthen and adorn the various relations of life, and render them a source of exalted enjoyment. Never existed a nation which did not find it necessary to bring in the aid of the ministers of religion to the laws and the government which bound them together. And “obedience for conscience sake” is the duty which Christian ministers enforce with motives addressed to the reason of men; while the teachers of false religions appealed only to their superstitious fears.

But in providing a learned, orthodox, pious, and practical ministry, you furnish able guardians of the *spiritual interests* of mankind—their comforters in adversity—the sharers of

their joys in prosperity—their guides through the doubts, the changes, the sins, and the sorrows of the world, to him who is mighty to save them, to that heaven where he will give them an eternal and glorious rest. You provide pastors to excite, and nourish, and preserve your virtues—to carry light, and hope, and consolation to the couch of sickness, harassed by doubts and fears—and attending on the last scene of nature, to open to the departing spirit the glories of eternal day, and to bid it—Go—go in peace, in hope, in triumph, and be for ever with the Lord.

Eminently fitted as *our Church* is from her evangelical doctrine, her pure worship, her divinely constituted ministry and apostolic ordinances, her decent and orderly rites, to take a leading station in the great work of securing to mankind the blessings of religion; *in her extension and advancement* we anticipate another important and interesting result from the success of the theological seminary which she has established.

Furnish her with a clergy of learning, of sound principles, of pious and practical zeal, who will exhibit her worship and ordinances in their primitive excellence and beauty, who will proclaim and defend her doctrines with talent, and with force and persuasion, and who, in the spirit of their ordination vows, will be an example of holiness in their private character,



and of fidelity in their professional duties—and our Church will advance in general estimation and confidence. Many are the once beautiful sanctuaries in some parts of our country which now lie in ruins, and there is no commissioned servant of the Most High to repair them. Many are the scattered members of our communion, where there is no shepherd to recall them to that fold which they have left, not from choice, but from necessity. For them, for the increasing population of our country, for our old established congregations, we want a learned, orthodox, pious, and practical ministry. And for this purpose we must have a theological seminary, affording to the students all the means and the motives to improvement, and qualifying them by the labours of learned and faithful professors for their sacred work.

The RESULTS then of accomplishing the objects for which this institution is to be established are of the most important nature, involving the temporal and the spiritual interests of mankind, and the extension and prosperity of that Church which is eminently fitted for the great work of extending the truths and blessings of the Gospel of Christ.

It becomes then an interesting inquiry—

By what MEANS are these OBJECTS to be accomplished, and these RESULTS attained?

By the *contributions* and the *exertions* of  
*Churchmen* in general ;

By the *fidelity* of the *trustees* ;

By the *talents* and *attention* of the *professors*  
 of the seminary ;

By the *diligence* and *piety* of the *students*.

1. *Funds* will be wanted, and necessarily  
*large funds*—for the support of *professors*—for  
 the aid of *necessitous students*—for furnishing  
 a *library*—and, in time, for the erection of  
*buildings*.

The range of science embraced in the institution is necessarily so extensive, comprehending the departments of Hebrew and Greek literature—of Biblical learning, and the interpretation of the Scriptures—of the evidences of revealed religion, and of moral science in its relations to theology—of systematic divinity—of ecclesiastical history, and the nature, ministry, and polity of the Church—of pastoral theology and sacred rhetoric—that sound policy dictates their distribution among several professors. And these it would be desirable to maintain independently of any parochial duties, that they may give themselves wholly to their important studies and labours. The professors of Biblical learning and of systematic divinity, and of Hebrew and Greek literature, receive salaries, and they have no professional avocations but those connected with the seminary :

their salaries, however, are not such as their important stations demand. The department which I occupy not requiring so large an appropriation of time and labour, the duties of it are discharged, and will continue to be discharged, gratuitously. But it would be very desirable to make such an appropriation to the professor of ecclesiastical history as would enable him, by the application of an equal portion of his parochial salary, to release himself from the weight of parochial duties, if an arrangement could be made for this purpose, with those concerned. Nor is it reasonable to expect, nor would it be honourable to the seminary, to receive, for any length of time, any considerable appropriation of the time and labours of a professor without a suitable remuneration.

Provision for the Branch School which was established by the New-York seminary previously to its junction with the general seminary, is understood to be one of the conditions of the union. And the advantages of an education for the ministry somewhat more retired than is practicable in a city, but, as far as circumstances admit, not less complete and solid, are so numerous, that no hesitation in the opinion of many friends of the Church ought to exist to extend to this branch school some portion of patronage; particularly as in reliance on the pledged faith of the New-York seminary consi-

derable expense has been incurred by individuals at Geneva, in the erection of a building in which accommodations are to be provided for the theological students. The arguments for cherishing the Branch School derive additional force from the prospect, that the academy at Geneva will obtain a charter of incorporation as a college; in which case it must appear of immense importance that the students for the ministry who may be educated there, should have the means of continuing their studies in the Theological School, the reciprocal influence of which, and of the college upon each other, will be in many respects highly beneficial.

The interest of the present funds of the institution, including the valuable bequest of its generous benefactor,\* is inadequate to discharge the salaries pledged to the professors. It is understood that the funds contributed as capital shall be preserved inviolate. Unless, therefore, further funds to a considerable amount be procured, the trustees, so far from being able to extend salaries to those of the professors whose services are gratuitous, or to increase those which are now pledged, will be compelled to diminish these small stipends. This is an event which would most sensibly

\* Jacob Sherred, Esq. of the city of New-York, whose bequest amounts to about \$ 55,000.



affect the character and interests of the institution, if not prove fatal to its very existence. And if Episcopalians permit one of the best hopes of the Church to languish or to perish, well may her friends take up the voice of lamentation over her prostrate interests and her faded honour.

But funds are wanted for the support of *necessitous students*.

It is an obvious truth, that talents may exist in humble stations, which, if cultivated and strengthened by education, would be fitted for the highest investigations of science, and the most useful professional labours. Some of the most eminent individuals who have benefited and adorned the Church and the state, have been taken from obscure life, and received their education on some of those numerous literary and theological foundations which are the just pride of the nation from which we are descended. Repeated instances have come within the knowledge of him who addresses you, and doubtless similar ones within the knowledge of others, of young men of talents, who, animated by a pious zeal to devote themselves to the high and disinterested duties of the ministry, have been compelled to relinquish their ardent wishes; or in the attainment of them, to struggle with the oppressing difficulties of narrow and inadequate resources. What more poignant to

those sensibilities which generally beat most lively in the bosom which talents and piety elevate and warm? These are cases, which appeal to our hearts as well as to our understandings. And the heart instantaneously suggests, what the understanding sanctions and confirms—we must have funds to save the necessitous youth of piety and talent from the pain of blasted hopes or chilling dependance, and to enable him to carry into effect his holy purpose—a purpose which God approves, and which God will reward.

Funds will be wanted for *augmenting the library.*

The scarce and valuable books which originally belonged to Trinity Church, in this city; those of high merit and value, which were the gift to the seminary, when at New-Haven, of several benevolent individuals, and particularly of one who has devoted himself to the interests of this institution with a generous zeal which characterizes all his efforts in works of public spirit, and piety, and benevolence, constitute a respectable foundation for a theological library.\* But several additional copies of many of the books in the library are wanted for the

\* The volumes belonging to the seminary before its removal from New-Haven, amount to about 1000. The library which belonged to Trinity Church, in the city of New-York, to about the same number. There is also a small library in the Branch School at Geneva.

accommodation of the students ; and the whole collection, valuable as it is, would appear insignificant, when compared with those magnificent libraries that adorn the halls of some of our universities and colleges. And in every thing that can contribute to the usefulness and honour of this institution, our ambition should not permit us to be surpassed.

Funds will also be wanted for the *erection of buildings* commensurate with the wants and with the future celebrity, as we trust, of the institution—in due season.

I say, in *due season*. For the erection of suitable buildings, however convenient, is the last object which, as I believe, the trustees of the institution contemplate. The valuable lots which are the gift of a generous individual,\* afford an eligible site for this establishment ; and it certainly is to be desired, that instead of the present inadequate accommodations, a small building, part of a larger plan such as the honour of the institution and the pride of this flourishing metropolis would eventually demand, containing a chapel for worship, and library and recitation halls, could as soon as possible be erected on this site. Policy, as well as convenience, dictate this measure, which would

\* Clement C. Moore, Esq. Sixty-two lots were given by him eligibly situated on the North River, about one mile and an half from the City Hall.

probably very materially tend to bring into productive use the lots which now yield no revenue.

Next to *contributions* to its funds, the advancement of this institution will depend on

The *fidelity* of its *trustees*,

And the *talents* and *attention* of its *professors*.

The stations and characters of the former will afford the surest pledge of their fidelity to the institution which they have in charge. They will consist of those who fill the first stations in the Church, and exercise its highest powers; of clergymen nominated by the respective dioceses, and approved by the General Convention of the Church; and of laymen selected in a similar manner. Many of its present governors are known to have taken a deep and active interest in the institution before its removal; and it would be unpardonable in me not to bear testimony to the distinguished zeal and ability with which the others supported the measures prosecuted in this diocese for theological learning. The interest and the zeal of all are now firmly united in an institution which is the undivided object of their earnest solicitude, their generous exertions, and, may I not add, their prayers.\*

\* The following Gentlemen compose the Board of Trustees  
—The Right Rev. William White, D. D. Bishop of the Dio-



Of the talents and attention of the *professors* obvious reasons will prevent me from saying, on this occasion, all that truth would sanction. Enjoying the full confidence of those who appointed them, this circumstance affords a pledge of the fidelity with which they will discharge their duties. And I trust I may be permitted to bear my testimony, formed on a long and intimate acquaintance, to their high and meritorious qualities. Satisfied I am, that such is their zeal for the great interests of theo-

cese of Pennsylvania; the Right Rev. John Henry Hobart, D. D. Bishop of the Diocese of New-York; the Right Rev. Alexander Viets Griswold, D. D. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese; the Right Rev. Richard Channing Moore, D. D. Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia; the Right Rev. James Kemp, D. D. Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland; the Right Rev. John Croes, D. D. Bishop of the Diocese of New-Jersey; the Right Rev. Nathaniel Bowen, D. D. Bishop of the Diocese of South-Carolina; the Right Rev. Philander Chase, D. D. Bishop of the Diocese of Ohio; the Right Rev. Thomas Church Brownell, D. D. LL. D. Bishop of the Diocese of Connecticut.—The Rev. Samuel F. Jarvis, D. D. David Sears, George Sullivan, of *Massachusetts*.—Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, of *Rhode-Island*.—Rev. Daniel Burhans, Rev. Harry Croswell, Rev. Birdsey G. Noble, Richard Adams, Jonathan Ingersoll, Samuel W. Johnson, Nathan Smith, of *Connecticut*.—Rev. William Berrian, Rev. William Harris, D. D. Rev. Thomas Lyell, Rev. James Milnor, D. D. Rev. Henry U. Onderdonk, M. D. Rev. Jonathan M. Wainwright, David S. Jones, Edward R. Jones, Isaac Lawrence, Brockholst Livingston, Henry M'Farlan, Thomas L. Ogden, Wright Post, Nehemiah Rogers, Thomas S. Townsend, John Wells, of *New-York*.—Rev. Charles H. Wharton, D. D. of *New-Jersey*.—Rev. George Boyd, Rev. Jackson Kemper, John Read, of *Pennsylvania*.—Rev. William E. Wyatt, D. D. Thomas S. Key, of *Maryland*.—Rev. William H. Wilmer, D. D. Charles F. Mercer, of *Virginia*.—Duncan Cameron, of *North-Carolina*.—Rev. Christopher E. Gadsden, D. D. William Heyward, of *South-Carolina*.

logical learning, that the promotion of these interests constitutes their highest motive for engaging in their arduous duties; and the success of their labours in training a learned, orthodox, pious, and practical ministry will form their highest reward.\*

\* The following are the Professors in the Institution.—*In the city of New-York*—The Right Rev. Bishop Hobart, Professor of Pastoral Theology and Pulpit Eloquence; the Rev. Samuel H. Turner, D. D. Professor of Biblical Learning and the Interpretation of Scripture; the Rev. Bird Wilson, D. D. Professor of Systematic Divinity; the Rev. Benjamin T. Onderdonk, Professor of the Nature, Ministry, and Polity of the Christian Church, and of Ecclesiastical History; Mr. Clement C. Moore, Professor of Hebrew and Greek Literature; Mr. Gulian C. Verplanck, Professor of the Evidences of Revealed Religion, and of Moral Science in its relations to Theology. The Rev. Henry J. Feltus, Librarian.—*In the Branch School at Geneva*—The Rev. Daniel M'Donald, D. D. Professor of the Interpretation of Scripture, Ecclesiastical History, and the Nature, Ministry, and Polity of the Christian Church; the Rev. John Reed, Professor of Biblical Learning; the Rev. Orin Clark, Professor of Systematic Divinity and Pastoral Theology.

As it is desirable that Episcopalians in every part of the country, should possess full confidence in the professors of an institution having in charge the most important interests of the Church, I hope I shall be excused for stating the opinion entertained of their character and qualifications where they are known.

It is a happy circumstance that the Seminary at its opening in New-York, could immediately avail itself of the erudition and experience of the Professor of Biblical Learning and the Interpretation of Scripture, who has already established a reputation for talents as eminent in his professional, as he has uniformly enjoyed for his many virtues in private life.

The Professor of Systematic Divinity, whom it has been my pleasure to know and to esteem from our earliest years, was distinguished for the clearness and the strength of intellect, and the accuracy of reasoning which he displayed in a high legal station; and he brings his eminent qualifications of mind and of heart to the duties of the sacred profession to which he has

But, young gentlemen, STUDENTS OF THE SEMINARY,

It is of importance that you should bear in mind, that vain will be the contributions of

devoted himself, in one of the most important departments in the Seminary.

Intimately associated as I have been, for many years, with the Professor of Ecclesiastical History, in a parochial charge, I have long held in the highest esteem—his elevated piety, the strength of his understanding, and his disinterested and ardent exertions for the Church, whose interests few are more capable of advancing, from respectability of talents and theological attainments.

It is, I think, honourable for our Church, that laymen are to be found disposed and qualified to take part in the important labours of theological education. The Professor of Hebrew and Greek Literature enjoys deserved reputation for his attainments in this department. The son of the late eminent Bishop of this diocese, he resembles his venerated father in the excellent traits of his mind and character, and in sincere devotion to the interests of religion and the Church.

I should deem myself censurable if I did not bear my testimony to the eminent qualities and worth of the layman who has consented to devote a portion of his time to the important department of the Evidences of Christianity and of Moral Science in its relations to Theology. It is my pleasure to rank him among my intimate friends; and I well know the sincerity of his Christian faith, the purity of his character, and the excellence of his heart. With a mind rich in various literature, he possesses that readiness and accuracy of perception, that power of reasoning, and that elegance of taste, which qualify him for profound research and for high efforts of literary genius. His first ambition, I firmly believe, is to be instrumental in advancing the best interests of his fellow men and of his country; and this motive, united with his ardent love for truth, has induced him to undertake the professorship in the Theological Seminary of the Evidences of Christianity and of Moral Science in its connexion with Theology; subjects on which he has already bestowed much thought and investigation, and for instruction in which he is in all respects qualified.

The acting professors in the Branch School, at Geneva, are the professors of Ecclesiastical History and of Systematic Divinity, whom I have long known and valued for their excellent



a generous community, vain the fidelity of the governors of the institution, and the talents and attention of the professors, and blasted their hopes, and the hopes of the Church, if there be wanting in you the diligent pursuit of your studies, and the serious and constant cultivation of all pious dispositions and holy habits.

I need not lay before you in detail what you have doubtless before this, long and well considered, and what will be the subject of your future attention in the course of your studies, how high the dignity, how weighty the office and the charge for which you are preparing, and to which, in due time, you will be called—“to be messengers, watchmen, and stewards of the Lord, to teach and to premonish, to feed and provide for the Lord’s family; to seek for Christ’s sheep that are dispersed abroad, and for his children who are in the midst of this naughty world, that they may be saved through Christ for ever.”\*

Oh! who among us can realize this office and this charge, and not be almost overwhelmed with the awful responsibility which they involve. There is One who can make us suffi-

talents and attainments. Sound in their principles and primitive in their piety, the friends of that establishment may be assured of the faithful devotion of these professors to its interests, and of the increasing zeal and ability with which they will conduct its instruction.

\* Ordination Office.



cient for these things; or who would not shrink from the work? Realize, young gentlemen, daily and constantly, its nature and its responsibility; that you may daily and constantly, looking to the source of your strength and consolation, labour to prepare yourselves for the discharge of its momentous duties. Furnished as you will be with all the means of advancing in the great work of theological science, it would be disgraceful to you to suppose for a moment that you will fail in the disposition, or relax in your diligent and unremitted exertions, to avail yourselves of them. Destined to be the ministers of a Church which, when we identify her in her evangelical doctrines, her apostolic ministry, and her pure and primitive worship, with the venerable Church from whom she boasts her origin, stands foremost among the Churches of Christendom, we call on you to rouse a holy ambition, not to disgrace, by superficial attainments, by error in doctrine, or levity, or unholiness in life, her elevated character, her sacred cause. Go back to the first ages of Christianity, and contemplate the learning and the eloquence of an Origen and a Tertullian, a Cyprian and a Jerome, a Basil and a Chrysostom, an Athanasius and an Augustine. Bring often to view the constellation of divines, that adorned and adorns the Church from which you are descended, illustrious in talents, learn-

ing, and in eloquence; and aiming at their learning and eloquence, be emulous also, with equal fidelity and zeal, to come forward in the world, the champions of the Christian faith.

But, my young friends, unhallowed will be the ambition which devotion to the glory of God does not guide and sanctify. It will not, like the holy inspiration from heaven, warm, and brighten, and purify; but, kindled at the impure altars of the world, it will consume and destroy. Be on your guard, then, against worldly ambition—be on your guard even against literary and theological fame: love it indeed, and cherish it—it leads to generous and ardent exertions; but love and cherish more—love and cherish supremely—the approbation of your Master, the promotion of his glory, and the salvation of the souls of your fellow men. With that Master hold constant intercourse, not only in the worship and ordinances, which it is not to be supposed that you would neglect, but in stated private devotion and in secret prayer: and in short ejaculations, taken from the devotional language of Scripture, or from the inimitable forms of the Church, lift up your hearts, even in the midst of your studies and your duties, to heaven—to your Saviour and your God. Of prayer it may be said with more than poetic truth,

“ — ardent, it opens heaven, lets down a stream

“ Of glory on the consecrated hour

“ Of man in audience with the Deity.

Amidst the investigations and high pleasures of literary and theological science, never forget, that with the humblest individual, to the salvation of whose soul your labours will be hereafter directed, you must, as sinners, rely for pardon on the atonement, and for sanctification on the grace of the divine Mediator. Fading are those wreaths of glory that crown the successful competitors in the race, the worthiest that worldly ambition can pursue, of literary fame. But there is a promise in which mere worldly ambition has no part—"They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever." Be emulous of this glory, my young friends; and God grant that it may reward the arduous but exalted labours of that ministry which is your choice; and for which, we trust, you will be here honourably fitted. The Lord bless you and keep you—The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you—The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace.\*

\* The following is a list of Students now attending the Seminary in New-York—Seth W. Beardsley, New-York; Augustus L. Converse, New-York; Robert B. Croes, New-Jersey; Edward K. Fowler, New-York; Thomas T. Groshon, New-York; Lemuel B. Hull, Connecticut; William S. Irving, New-York; Levi S. Ives, New-York; William Jarvis, Connecticut; Samuel R. Johnson, New-York; William L. Johnson, New-York; Samuel Marks, Pennsylvania; Henry M. Mason, Pennsylvania; Matthew Matthews, Pennsylvania; Sylvester Nash,

**PEOPLE OF THE CONGREGATION**—through you I would address—**CHURCHMEN** at large. Whether this institution is to shine forth in health and in vigour, the pride of the Church, depends on your exertions and on your contributions in its behalf. It cannot be that the descendants of those who have raised in another nation the noblest monuments of literary and religious benevolence, will permit the present effort to transmit to posterity the blessings of divine truth, to fail at the outset. It cannot be that the sons of the purest and most primitive Church in Christendom will be outdone in pious zeal by other communities of Christians. The seminary which we have presented to you, with reference to its objects, its principles, its results, and its means, is calculated and designed, in its organization and in all its arrangements, to advance that Gospel of Christ which, while it is the power of God unto salvation, affords the only security for social order, for the perfection, dignity, and happiness of man. Is

Virginia; William T. Potter, Massachusetts; Samuel G. Raymond, New-York; George M. Robinson, New-York; William Shelton, Connecticut; Edward Thomas, South-Carolina; Henry J. Whitehouse, New-York; Job L. Yvonet, New-York.

At the date of the last report from the Branch School, at Geneva, the following were Students—William Bostwick, Marvin Cady, John A. Clark, Thaddeus Garlick, John Gavott, Burton H. Hecock, Orsimus H. Smith, Richard Salmon, Ira White—in addition to which, Alanson Bennet, Seth Davis, and Henry Gregory, were daily expected; all the above are of the state of New-York.



there an individual who will not devote to such an institution his persevering, unremitted, and liberal exertions; and who will not offer up for it, with more fervour than even for the best civil institution of his country, the prayer—

ESTO PERPETUA.

Yes, blessed Lord, who didst shed thy blood, and constitute thy Church for the salvation of lost man, be with this seminary, the sacred nursery of the ministers of thy Church—be with it, by thy protecting Providence, thy guiding and governing Spirit, “ALWAY, EVEN TO THE END OF THE WORLD.”

*An Office of Devotion, consisting of Collects from the Liturgy, with other appropriate Prayers, was drawn up for the Seminary, when at New-Haven, by Bishop White, of Pennsylvania. After the delivery of the foregoing Address, the following Prayer, taken from that Office, was used.*

**M**OST gracious Father, who by thy blessed Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, didst commission thy holy Apostles, and through them a succession of Pastors, to the end of time, to proclaim to the world the knowledge of salvation through a Redeemer; we implore thy blessing on this Seminary, instituted with a view to the same ministry of the Gospel. May the hearts and the hands of thy people be open with supplies for the carrying of the design into effect. May the Trustees and the Professors be endued with fidelity and with wisdom; and sustained by thy Providence in the discharge of the duties respectively committed to them. May the Pupils be favoured with health for the prosecution of their studies; and preserved, by thy grace, from all temptations to relaxation of industry in the pursuit of knowledge. Strengthen in them the good desires which have been excited in them by the inspiration of thy holy Spirit; and impress on their minds a sense of the high origin, of the salutary tendency, and of the rich rewards of the Gospel Ministry. Endue them with humility in the pursuit of truth, and with zeal and steadfastness in the profession of it. Preserve them from prejudices, and from whatever else may betray their understandings into error, or their hearts into sin. May they be useful in their genera-

tion to the increase of thy glory and the edification of thy Church: and may they at last receive the commendation of faithful servants from the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord;] in whose name, and through whose prevailing merits, we offer up these our imperfect prayers. *Amen.*

AN

ADDRESS

TO THE

**TWELFTH CONVENTION**

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE

EASTERN DIOCESE,

HELD AT CLAREMONT, N. H. SEPTEMBER 26, 1827.

BY THE RT. REV. A. V. GRISWOLD,

Bishop of the Diocese.

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MIDDLEBURY, VT:

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1827.





# ADDRESS.

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ONCE more, respected brethren, has the swift current of time performed its annual revolution; and again is it made my duty to state before you "the affairs of the Diocese since our last Convention; the names of the Churches which I have visited; the number of persons confirmed; the names of those who have been received as candidates for orders; the changes also by death, removal, or otherwise, which have taken place among the Clergy, and in general all matters tending to throw light on the affairs of the Diocese."—This duty, aided by your prayers and favoured by your patient attention, I now, not without diffidence, proceed to perform.

To give you a particular account of *the Churches visited*, though to me it might be a pleasure, to you would be tedious. When, through the Lord's goodness, I shall finish the journey now commenced, and another which is soon to follow, far the greater part of our Churches will have been visited once, and some of them twice or thrice during the present year. The Churches already visited are those in Rhode-Island, and those also in Massachusetts, with the exception of those in Newburyport, Bridgewater, Greenfield, Ashfield, Hopkinton, and one or two others. I have also visited Hopkinton and Holderness in this state.

In these visitations 196 have been confirmed.

To the *list of Candidates for Holy Orders* have been added George F. Haskins, Norris M. Jones, George T. Williams, Anson B. Hard, and Charles Cleveland.

To the *Order of Deacons*, Robert B. Drane, Henry C. Knight, Clement F. Jones, James M. Tappan, have been admitted; and the Rev. John Bristed, Benjamin C. C. Parker, and Eleazer M. P. Wells, have been *ordained Priests*.

*Changes by death among our Clergy*, happily we have none to report; and great cause have we of thankfulness to the Father of Mercies, that, considering their number in this Diocese, so few, since its formation, have deceased. Other changes have not been many or great. The Rev. Mr. Wells has taken charge of the Parish in Gardiner. The Church in Portland increases; and there is still hope that a missionary may soon be profitably employed in the state of Maine. In the large and flourishing village of Saco, a very respectable number of people have formed a society, and are building

a church. The prudence, and energy, and appearance of evangelical zeal, with which they have thus far conducted this good and noble work, gives us reason to hope that God will bless their labours, and that we may soon have there a respectable parish. The Rev. Mr. Wells, the Rev. Mr. Cutler, the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, (who has recently returned to this Diocese,) and others, have officiated in Saco; and there is a pleasing prospect that a Clergyman may soon be permanently settled there.

The parish in Hopkinton in this state, under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Moses B. Chase, aided by the liberality of a gentleman lately of Boston, are also building a handsome stone church. And it is but a just tribute of gratitude and praise to observe here that the Church in this Diocese, and not in this only, is under much obligation to the generous spirit and pious liberality of our brethren, and other pious citizens of Boston. In many instances and many ways, especially during the two or three years last past, have they bountifully contributed to various religious and charitable purposes of great utility. Under God's merciful Providence it is chiefly from their bounty that I am able to travel through this Diocese, and to visit our Churches. It is much to be regretted that we have not more Churches in that city. Excepting one in South Boston, the number of our Churches there, notwithstanding the increase of wealth and population, is but the same as fifty years ago. This has been owing in part to some untoward circumstances, and (perhaps) mistaken policy. So many houses for Divine worship of other denominations have lately been erected there, that the hope of increasing the number of ours is, we may fear, declining.

The Rev. Mr. Mott, on account of ill health, has resigned the charge of the Church in Marblehead, which is now vacant. The Rev. Mr. Parker officiates as a missionary in Lenox; and the Rev. Mr. Tappan in Bridgewater. The Rev. Mr. Blakesley has removed from Great Barrington, and the Rev. Mr. Gilbert, from Connecticut, is about to take the charge of that Church. There are few if any places in this Diocese, where a prudent, pious, active, and devoted Minister of Christ can labour with a better prospect of usefulness than in Great Barrington. With Mr. Gilbert I have very little acquaintance: that he may be what they need should be our prayer. It would perhaps be better if our parishes were more generally in the habit of consulting their Bishop, or the Standing Committee, in their choice and settlement of Ministers. The labours of at least one more Clergyman are wanted on the West side of Connecticut River. We are not without hope that the Rev. Mr. Drane, on his return from the South, will give some further attention to those parts.

On the 13th day of December last, the new edifice in Marshfield was dedicated by the name of Trinity Church. The small parish in Ashfield, to the

utmost of their means, are going forward with the building of their church. In no part of the Diocese would the erection of a decent house of prayer, and the full establishment of an Episcopal Church, promise to be more truly beneficial, than at Northampton. To the liberality of some gentlemen there we are already much indebted; and it is to be hoped and earnestly desired that their generous efforts may be aided by the pious and liberal of other places.

The new parish in Woodstock are also engaged in building a church; and the one building in Middlebury is soon, if the Lord permit, to be consecrated to his holy worship. Several ordinations, with the same divine permission, will soon take place in that state.

A considerable number of our Churches are to good effect aided by the means of our small missionary funds. Several parishes have formed Missionary Societies, and I regret that it is not at present in my power to give you an accurate statement of their number and condition. I have this year received thirty-three dollars from the Female Missionary Society in Hopkinton, N. H.; and thirty-seven dollars from that in Portland. They and others who have made like contributions, are entitled to our thanks, and we are bound to pray that God will reward and bless them. The annual meeting of the Massachusetts Missionary Society, in St. Paul's Church in Boston, last June, was very interesting, and it is hoped will produce good effects. Our Clergy can in few if in any ways better promote the general interests of religion, and of our Church particularly, than by often calling the attention of our people to their duty, and to the blessedness of contributing, in all ways reasonably in their power, to the propagation of the Gospel. And let me be allowed to repeat and reiterate that the contributions for employing missionaries in small destitute parishes in this Diocese, recommended some years since by its Convention, to be made on Easter or some other Sunday, ought religiously to be regarded. Let the minister of each parish state the subject fairly before the people, judiciously selecting a favourable time for the collection, and he will then have discharged his duty. For giving or not giving the people are accountable to Him only who supplies them with means and knows their hearts. Comparatively speaking, there is no backwardness in our people to give: were they called upon as others are, they would, we believe, be more liberal than any other christians.

The meeting of our General Convention last November, and the transactions of that great council of our Church, are things well known. The unanimity which very much prevailed among its members; the prosperity of our Churches which was then exhibited; and the general disposition to support the order and worship; the constitution and discipline of our ecclesiastical establishment, which on that interesting occasion, was remarkably manifested,



are just subjects of mutual congratulation, and of devout thanks and prayer to Almighty God. From our experience and observation we may humbly believe that the Lord is pleased to bless the prudent, pious, and faithful labours of consistent Episcopalians more perhaps than those of any other christian community or sect. And the same experience and observation confirm what the scriptures clearly teach, that the more sound and orthodox are any people in their faith and christian profession, the more offensive to God are their worldly affections, their coldness and want of fidelity.

Some particulars of the business which came before the General Convention, and of their acts and deliberations, it will be proper to notice on this occasion. The general interest which was felt and manifested on the very important subject of Sunday Schools, is a pleasing evidence of a religious concern for the best interests of mankind. A General Sunday School Union or Society was organized under the patronage of the Convention, which we may hope will contribute something to the uniformity and success of this branch of religious instruction. Whether it will be expedient for you to pass any resolution upon this subject, or whether it should rather be left with our State Conventions is submitted to your judgment.

A resolution passed both houses of the General Convention appointing "a Committee to revise the Canons of this Church, and to prepare such alterations, amendments, and additions as they may deem expedient; with power also to make a new arrangement of the Canons." This I need not observe to you is a measure of no small importance. Our present Canons are generally well intended, and wisely framed, but they have been passed at different times as occasion required, and some of them have been so much altered that their meaning is not sufficiently obvious and easy to be attained; and it is much to be desired that they should be revised and digested into a more uniform and simple code. Some of them are so expressed that they cannot be literally and at all times observed, without neglecting what the scriptures require. Rules which are so framed that they cannot at all times, consistently with our duty to God, be strictly observed, have some ill effect: the man who is very scrupulous will be too much, and he who is more lax, will be too little restricted by them. Statutes or laws are restraints upon liberty, and ought not to be made except when necessary or expedient to remedy or prevent some greater evil. Their restrictions should extend no farther than such necessity requires; and so clearly and carefully should they be expressed, that all may understand and literally observe them. To multiply Canons beyond what real necessity requires, and to lay restraints upon our brethren in things which might safely be left to their discretion, manifests distrust of their principles or prudence, and a love of exercising power; and its tendency is to destroy mutual confidence and brotherly affection; to excite jealousies and party

spirit, and to produce intrigues and strifes for office and power. For the more strictly people find themselves bound by laws, the more desirous will they be to have the control and administration of them. Another and perhaps still greater evil of multiplying Canons, is, that the greater is their number, the less will they be respected and observed. This is seen in the case of the English Church, which has too what ours has not, and it is hoped never will have, the weight of the civil power to enforce its Canons. It is in my judgment a favourable circumstance, and an evidence of their wisdom, and love of union, peace, and good order, that the Conventions of the States which compose this Diocese, and our people generally, have manifested so little disposition to legislate and to multiply Canons. Those of the General Convention they cordially receive and conscientiously observe; nor do they (it is believed) see or feel much need of adding to their number. This subject is now open for discussion, and I bring it before the Diocese that you may be prepared at the next General Convention by your delegates to act upon it. And I do it the rather from the uncertainty whether I shall again have an opportunity so convenient.

For these same reasons it is fitting, if not my duty, that I should address you on another subject, which is still more interesting. At the last General Convention the House of Bishops proposed, in a resolution sent to the other House, to make some alterations in the Book of Common Prayer; chiefly for the purpose of removing the objections so generally made to the length of our Morning Service. The remedy proposed was to allow a discretionary power, under certain restrictions, to omit some parts, as expediency should require. The most material was permission sometimes to omit the Litany.—Though in my judgment a plan for shortening the Service, and yet preserving all its parts, more convenient and more generally satisfactory, might have been proposed; yet I conceded to that in the hope that it would give satisfaction, or (which I still hope,) lead to some result that will be generally acceptable. It is well known that the Litany was designed for seasons of calamity, and to be used when christians, with the deepest humiliation, would supplicate God's merciful deliverance from distress. And it may well be questioned whether in making it so common the good effect is not diminished;—whether it were not better to reserve it for the more solemn seasons of public worship; and whether it is even suitable for our joyful festivals.

But when it was found that any permission to omit the Litany was displeasing to a great, if not the greater part of our people, the Bishops withdrew that part of their proposition. The other parts were acted upon by the other House, and are now, agreeably to the provisions of our General Constitution, referred to the consideration of all our Churches, and especially to the Convention of each Diocese. And it is a subject which demands our most mature and

dévout consideration. The present proposed alterations, which have in view the shortening of the Service, allow only of omitting a part of some of the Lessons; and, on common occasions, of taking a shorter portion of the Psalms. As this at most can shorten the service but very little, and sometimes not at all; and as it shortens the Evening as much or nearly as much as it does the Morning Prayer, it is not, I think, probable that the Convention will incur the inconvenience of altering the Prayer-Book to so little purpose. If it were permitted to omit the Ante-Communion Service when the Communion is not administered, and when the Epistle and Gospel are not particularly appropriate to the season; and when the Communion Service is used, to omit the Litany, excepting the season of Lent, all parts of the service would be retained, and would in every Church be used. And perhaps this, with some other small alterations, would give the most general satisfaction.

I am well aware of the delicacy and the difficulties of this subject, and how necessary it is, if we would be accounted *Churchmen*, to eulogize the Liturgy, and to deprecate as sacrilege even the least alteration. But on this point I have little anxiety. Nursed as I have been from earliest infancy in the bosom of this Church, having passed my whole life among Episcopalians, as much so perhaps as any man of my age in this country living; and having been above forty years a member of its communion, I have long since imbibed a deep prepossession (not to say prejudice) in its favour. Nor have I, ("as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that" the fact is) been changed in my opinion respecting it. That I am wholly free even from bigotry I dare not affirm; but for many years have I endeavoured impartially to examine the claims of our Church to scriptural orthodoxy, and primitive order; and the examination has confirmed me in the undoubting belief that her claims are well founded. Nor am I conscious of having ever said or done any thing inconsistent with such belief. I humbly trust that I have also, in some small degree, imbibed that truly liberal spirit of forbearance and charity which our Church, more than any other christian community on earth, inculcates; and which is not the least among the many proofs that she is indeed *the Church of Christ*. In what manner, and by what means the interest and prosperity of this Church, and of true religion will best be promoted, there will be among us, it must be expected, some diversity of opinion; but in decided attachment to its order and worship, and in a sincere desire to promote its best good, I shall not yield to any one, however lofty or exclusive may be his pretensions. Though I may seem to "speak foolishly in this confidence of boasting," this confession, you must well know, is not uncalled for, and I hope not inexcusable. It is also in some degree necessary to give you a right view of the part I acted in the Convention, on the subject of altering the Liturgy, and to prevent any wrong inference from what I take the liberty of suggesting in



this address. It is undoubtedly a fact that the greater part of those who belong to our Church, or would otherwise attend its worship, think our Morning Service unreasonably and unprofitably long. By a judicious abbreviation we should probably increase the number of members, and of course the blessings of being members of this Church. Let it also be considered that by the alterations which I should sanction, no congregation would be obliged to omit any part of what is now in the Prayer-Book; I would but give permission to omit some parts when found expedient. Consider too that for those who themselves delight in using the whole service, (of whom I am very decidedly one) to enact authoritatively that none of our congregations shall worship God at all, except they will go through with all the services which we delight in, is a stretch of power, which, to say the least, should be exercised with great prudence and moderation; and how *far*, consistently with God's word, it may be exercised is worthy of some consideration.

Some of our brethren whose characters we venerate, and whose opinions we justly respect, think it highly hazardous and imprudent to attempt any alterations of the Prayer-Book: that if we once commence there will be no end of innovations till the Liturgy is destroyed. I apprehend no such result. It has ever been the practice of the Church, and it is the understanding of Churchmen, expressed in the Preface to their Prayer-Book, that it may and should be altered as times change and circumstances require. Can we seriously fear, that such a learned, wise, and pious body of Clergy and Laymen as compose our General Convention, will so mutilate or alter our forms of devotion as to impair their usefulness? From matter of fact we have convincing proof that our people are not disposed to hasty and unprofitable changes; but very much the contrary. It is rather to be feared that if a large and suitable committee were appointed by the General Convention to examine and report on this momentous subject, they would not venture to propose all the improvements which the Liturgy will admit of. And whatever may be the final result of the propositions now before the public, (and what it ought to be I do not take it upon me to say) it is highly fitting that our people should think much on this subject, and not forget it in their prayers to Almighty God.

Your attention, already too long wearied, is requested to one more subject, still more delicate, which has already been brought before one of our State Conventions and may perhaps be proposed to this of the Diocese. Some years have now passed away, since, in one of these public Addresses, I suggested to the consideration of the Diocese, whether it is not expedient to divide it. Not that I am in any degree unwilling, while it shall please God to continue my strength, to visit all our Churches as I have done. Such indeed is my affection for all those which I have been accustomed to visit, and such my grati-



tude for many, very many kindnesses received, that the thought of seeing them no more must be exceedingly painful. But the interest and the feelings of an individual are of but little consideration when weighed in the balance against the public good; and I have endeavoured to make no account of mine. Let the glory of our Divine Master, and the prosperity of Zion, be our first and chief concern; and let Him dispose of us, in our private capacities, as to his unerring wisdom and merciful goodness shall seem fitting. It is probable that a part if not the whole of this Diocese may soon be called to the election of a Bishop. And though I would not willingly say or do any thing to influence your choice respecting any particular person; yet some general remarks on a subject of such deep concern will not be unsuitable to this time and occasion. Popular elections to offices of honour, emolument or power, are very naturally and very generally productive of intrigue, contention, and party spirit; and there is reason certainly to apprehend that something of these great evils may sometimes attend our Episcopal elections.— True it is that if the Episcopal Office were generally viewed and carefully preserved exactly what our Saviour intended; if they who are *chief among his people* were more than others the *servants of all*: if Bishops were distinguished chiefly in being more humble, and *labouring more abundantly* than other ministers of Christ, the office would rarely be *sought for*; and rarely without trembling reluctance be *received*. Such is our corrupt nature, that the more the Episcopate is made attractive to human ambition, the greater will be the evils of contending for it. As preservatives against such evils, permit me to suggest two things, which, if I have gained any thing by experience and observation, and by reading the word of God, are worthy of your serious attention.

The one is, far as is now practicable to preserve *the Episcopal Office in its primitive state, and divested of all that is attractive to a worldly mind*; then will fewer desire it who are not willing to spend and to be spent in the Lord's work. To put much power in the hands of an individual is generally dangerous, and of course, to do it unnecessarily is unwise. The power and patronage of Bishops should not be extended beyond what is expedient for the due exercise of their office. Each Diocese should be so small that its Bishop may annually visit every Church, and also, (with a Deacon or other assistant, if necessary,) have a parochial charge. How small the Dioceses were in the early ages is evident from the number of Bishops who attended their Ecclesiastical Councils. The incalculable evils of the Papal and other overbearing hierarchies in the Church arose chiefly from Bishops being suffered gradually to obtain rank and dignity and influence according to the magnitude, importance, and power of the cities or provinces or kingdoms over

which they presided. That a State and a Diocese should be so identified as they seem to be with us is a defect which it is hoped the good principles and good sense of our people will soon remedy. The emoluments of this office should be no more than are necessary to a decent maintenance and an effectual performance of its arduous duties. Perhaps no one thing has contributed more to the prejudice against Episcopacy than the pride and “pomp and vanities” which have so often disgraced the lives of those who have filled this sacred office. Their prerogatives are to *visit and confirm the Churches*; to *ordain Elders* and other ministers *in every city* and place where they are needed; and to *give themselves more continually than others, to prayer, and to the ministry of the word*. To consider this office as in any degree exonerating us from any of these our more peculiar duties; to suppose that, in consequence of being thus exalted, we may preach less, and be excused from leading in social prayer, is a strange perversion of this holy office.—Christ sends us as he did his apostles, particularly “to preach the Gospel.” This is especially our business and duty: Bishops should be as apostles or missionaries, preaching, as their strength will admit and occasion offers, in every city and town and parish within their pastoral care.

The other thing which I would suggest as a preservative against the evils to be apprehended from Episcopal elections, is, in selecting persons to fill this office, to *have regard solely to the honour of God, and the advancement of true religion*: to prefer such as are meet and well qualified “to exercise their ministry duly to the honour of God, and the edifying of his Church.” It is desirable that a Bishop should possess great learning and eminent talents; but sound theology, prudence, piety and active zeal, are indispensably necessary. Great literary attainments may aid the Church as much or nearly as much in the station of a parish minister, or of a professor in a college or other seminary; but a true knowledge of the gospel system, and a holy zeal for its propagation, tempered with prudence and charity, can in no other situation be so useful, as in this office. That elections to it may be conducted with harmony, and happily terminate, let all artifice, intrigue, and party spirit be not merely avoided, but detested. Our blessed Saviour *ever spake openly, and in secret said nothing*. The people are most likely to act uprightly and wisely when left to their unbiassed judgment and free choice.—Attempts to prepossess them in favour of one candidate, or to prejudice them against another, are generally dishonest and unchristian. “Let your eye be single, and your whole body shall be full of light.” In regard to the faith and zeal, and the religious views and feelings of those who are considered as candidates for this office, those best qualified will be most diffident, and least willing to accept it. Its vast and awful responsibility, none who justly view

it can without much fear incur. Its labours, and cares, and privations, if duly considered, not many are willing to endure. For its difficulties, its devotedness to God, and its wise execution, who can think himself sufficient? The seeking of such an office is of itself a disqualification; *nolo episcopari* is truly the sentiment and feeling of an humble soul, and pious heart.

To other points would I gladly ask your attention, but I have already much too long detained you. My chief apology is, that in this way I can, most conveniently for all concerned, perform what the Church makes my duty of delivering Charges to the Clergy, and Pastoral Addresses to the people of the Diocese.

Much cause have we of thankfulness for the degree of prosperity which the Lord is every year bestowing upon our Church in these United States.— Yet when we consider that this Church, in our view, certainly, is most orthodox and scriptural, even “the ground and pillar of the truth,” to us it must seem strange and deplorable that its growth is not more rapid—that in all the population of this vast empire we have so few congregations, and many of those few so very small. For this undoubtedly there is a cause, and it behooves us to be well assured that the cause is not our fault. Is the defect in our Constitution and Canons? Then let them be revised. Is there any thing in our Liturgy or manner of worship which is unnecessarily offensive to serious, candid, pious people, and keeps such from our communion? Let the offence be removed. Does this slowness of increase proceed from prejudices against our Communion? then should we do all that in reason we can do to remove those prejudices. Those tenets which we believe important to the salvation of men, we must *earnestly contend for*; but things not essential, if in fact they keep men from embracing what is necessary, should for that reason be relinquished. Or is the defect rather in the faith and piety and zeal of our Bishops and other Clergy? Take good heed then whom you elect to the Episcopal Office, and whom you recommend for the sacred ministry. And let us who already have some grade in “this office and ministration” *take heed to ourselves and to our doctrine*. We of the Episcopal Church occupy, as we may humbly believe, a most important station among the ranks of Christ’s militant host; we stand on the middle ground between the errors of those who on the one hand corrupt the true faith, and diminish the power of religion by human inventions; doctrines of men; useless ceremonies; superstitious rites; unauthorized traditions, idolatrous worship and veneration of saints and relics: and of those on the other hand, who degrade or mutilate religion; who either distort the features of the Gospel, or reject the essential doctrines of Christ, making his cross of no effect. If such be indeed

the very important stand which the Lord hath assigned us, let us be consistent with ourselves, and faithful to our God, "Turn not *to the right hand or to the left.*" Let us shew our Churchmanship, and evangelical zeal, "not in word and tongue, but in deed and in truth." Let it be seen that our religion is indeed primitive and apostolic, by our manifesting that spirit which was in Christ, and that holy zeal which shone in his first apostles.

ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD:



# **EPISCOPAL REGISTER.**



**THE only Religious Journal devoted to the  
interests of the  
Protestant Episcopal Church  
IN THE  
EASTERN DIOCESE.**

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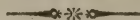
# JOURNAL

OF THE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### DIOCESAN CONVENTION.



#### CONVENTION OF THE EASTERN DIOCESE.

CLAREMONT, N. H. Sept. 26, 1827.

This being the day for the meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese, a number of clerical and lay delegates assembled in Union Church, Claremont, at 9 o'clock, A. M.;—present—

Rt. Rev. ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD,  
*President, Ex Officio.*

MASSACHUSETTS.—Rev. T. Strong, *Rector of St. James' Church, Greenfield*; Rev. T. Edson, *St. Ann's Ch. Lowell*; Rev. A. L. Baur, *St. Mary's Ch. Newton*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.—Rev. C. Burroughs, *Rector of St. John's Ch. Portsmouth*; Rev. M. B. Chase, *St. Andrew's ch. Hopkinton*; Rev. R. Fowle, *Trinity ch. Holderness*; Rev. J. B. Howe, *Union ch. Claremont*; Rev. G. Leonard, *Trinity ch. Cornish*; Rev. G. Richardson, *officiating in Charlestown*.

VERMONT.—Rev. J. Bristed, *Rector of Trinity ch. Ferrisburgh*; Rev. C. Chase, *Rector of Immanuel ch. Bellows-Falls*; Rev. Joel Clap, *Rector of the Churches in Woodstock and Bethel*; Rev. S. Nash, *Union ch. St. Albans*; Rev. S. B. Shaw, *Christ ch. Guilford*; Rev. B. B. Smith, *St. Stephen's ch. Middlebury*.

The following Lay Delegates presented their testimonials.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Amos Lyon, *Newton*; Richard E. Field, *Greenfield*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.—William Berry, and Daniel B. Emerson, *Hopkinton*; Isaac Hubbard, and John Blake, *Claremont*; Samuel Putnam, *Cornish*.

Rev. B. B. Smith was appointed Secretary.

On motion of Rev. J. Clap—*Resolved*—That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of recommending to the several parishes in this Diocese, some uniform method of electing Delegates to the Diocesan Convention, and some form for certificates of the same, and report to this Convention.

Rev. T. Strong, Mr. Hubbard, and Mr. Lyon, *Committee*.

On motion of Rev. T. Strong, the Rev. C. Burroughs and Mr. Hubbard of N. H.; the Rev. T. Edson and Mr. Field, of Mass; and the Rev. C. Chase of Vt.; were appointed a committee to nominate the Standing Committee.

Convention, on motion of Rev. T. Edson, prepared for attending divine service.

After morning prayer, and the sermon by Rev. T. Edson—the Bishop administered confirmation and the Lord's Supper, and at the close of the services the business of Convention was resumed.

The following report was then read and adopted:—

We the undersigned committee, appointed to take into consideration the expediency of adopting some uniform method of electing lay delegates to this Convention;—beg leave to report, that it be recommended to the several parishes to choose their delegates at their annual Easter meeting next preceding the meeting of the Convention. Should they neglect to choose them then, that the Wardens and Vestry appoint them; and that the certificate be signed either by the Clerk, the Wardens, or the Rector of the Parish.

T. STRONG, *Chairman*.

On motion of Rev. T. Strong, a committee was appointed to wait on the Rev. T. Edson, to request a copy of his sermon before Convention, for publication.

Rev. T. Strong, and Rev. C. Burroughs, *Committee*.

*Resolved*, That Ministers of our Church, Candidates for Holy Orders, and other members of our communion, present in this Convention, be entitled to honorary seats therein.

Committee of nomination of the *Standing Committee* reported the following persons, who were accordingly appointed:—

*Clerical Members*.—Rev. N. B. Crocker, of R. I.; Rev. J. Morse, of Mass.; Rev. C. Burroughs, of N. H.; Rev. A. Bronson, of Vt.; Rev. P. Ten Brock, of Me.

*Lay Members*.—Stephen T. Northam, Esq. of R. I.; James C. Merrill, Joseph

Head, Jr. and John Howard, Esqrs. of Mass.

The Rev. C. Burroughs submitted the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, 1. That it be recommended to the Churches of the Eastern Diocese to form in each, a Missionary Society, auxiliary to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.

2. That it be also recommended to the Churches of the Eastern Diocese to establish in their respective Churches, Sunday Schools, and to form Societies auxiliary to the General Protestant Episcopal Sunday School Union; or to procure subscriptions to the funds of this Institution, and to become associated with it.

3. That it be recommended to the churches of the Eastern Diocese to form Bible Classes, or to adopt such a system of Bible Instruction as shall be deemed most desirable and convenient to the Pastors of the respective Churches.

After separate readings, these resolutions were adopted.

The Rev. T. Strong, and Rev. C. Chase, were appointed a committee to request a copy of the Rt. Rev. Bishop's Address for publication.

On motion of Rev. T. Strong, *Resolved*, That the next meeting of this Convention be held at Bellows-Falls, Vt.

Rev. S. B. Shaw, and Rev. C. Chase obtained leave of absence.

Convention adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, Sept. 27, 1826. }  
9 o'clock, A. M. }

Convention met according to adjournment, and after prayers by the Rev. S. Nash, proceeded to business.

The Rev. T. Strong proposed the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. Howe be requested to communicate to the people of his parish the deep sense which the members of this Convention entertain of the kindness and hospitality which have been received during the present session, and the assurance of our continued prayers for their temporal and spiritual prosperity.

On motion of the same Rev. Gentleman, *Resolved*, That the practice of returning thanks for Conventional Sermons be henceforth discontinued.

On motion of the Rev. C. Burroughs—

*Resolved*, That this Convention think it desirable and important that the State Conventions of the Eastern Diocese should, previous to the next meeting of the General Convention, express their opinions rela-

tive to the alterations proposed in the Liturgy and in the Constitution of the Church by the last General Convention; and that this resolve be communicated to the secretaries of the respective State Conventions.

On motion of the Rev. A. L. Baury—

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be requested to call upon the Secretaries of the several State Conventions composing this Diocese, with a view of ascertaining if any thing, and what has been done for the more effectual support of the Episcopate, and that they be requested to report to the next Convention of the Diocese.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Baury, the thanks of Convention were returned to the Rt. Rev. President, and the Rev. Secretary, for their official services.

Rev. T. Strong, and Rev. C. Burroughs were appointed a committee to report unfinished business.

On motion of Rev. A. L. Baury, seconded by Rev. T. Edson, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That the Rt. Rev. the Bishop be requested to employ a missionary to visit every church in this Diocese with an express view of promoting a missionary spirit, establishing Missionary Societies, and aiding feeble Churches; and that each clergyman be requested to raise, by contributions, or otherwise, such sums as may be in his power, to defray the expense, and that the sums contributed be remitted to the Bishop.

Committee on further business before Convention, submitted the following resolutions:

1. That the Rt. Rev. Bishop be requested to authorize some form of service for public fasts.—Adopted.

2. That the Ninth Article of the Constitution which says "no state shall withdraw from this Diocese without the approbation of the House of Bishops," be so altered as to read without the consent of the other States, and of the Bishop of this Diocese.

Laid over for consideration at the next Convention.

On motion of the same Committee that this Convention appoint its own preacher, from year to year; Rev. Mr. Burroughs, Rev. Mr. Edson, and Rev. Mr. Smith were constituted a committee of nomination.

Upon receiving their report, Convention proceeded to appoint the Rev. A. Potter, of St. Paul's Church, Boston, their next preacher, and the Rev. A. L. Baury, of St. Mary's Church, Newton, his substitute.

After singing the 133d Psalm, and Prayers by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop, Convention adjourned without day.—*Attest*,

B. B. SMITH, Sec'y.

JOURNALS OF THE CONVENTIONS

OF THE

Protestant Episcopal Church

IN THE

DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND,

From the Year A. D. 1790 to the Year A. D. 1832, inclusive.



PROVIDENCE:

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE CONVENTION OF 1858.



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HENRY L. TILLINGHAST, PRINTER.

NO. 9 MARKET SQUARE.  
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## ADVERTISEMENT.

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The following Journals, now printed for the first time, owe their publication to a resolution adopted by the Diocesan Convention of Rhode-Island in 1858, as follows:—

*Resolved*, That a Committee be authorized and requested to have 500 copies of the unpublished Journals of this Convention printed.

The Rev. Mr. Waterman and Mr. G. S. Wardwell were appointed that Committee. At the request of the Committee, the Bishop was subsequently added to their number.

In fulfilling the task assigned them, the Committee have encountered not a few of the difficulties that always attend the reading and printing of early documents. In the case of these records, the *hand writing* of the Secretaries was sometimes a source of doubt; and the syntax has frequently been found defective, and if the reader should discover any awkward or incomplete sentences, he is apprized that they are an exact copy of those in the manuscript; with respect to variations in orthography, the Committee decided to retain all spellings that seemed to be the prevailing usage of the time being; and to make corrections in those cases only, where the Secretary was inconsistent with himself, or was evidently careless.

The Committee have been favored with the assistance of EZRA W. HOWARD, Esq., in carrying these Journals through the press, and think them to be a correct transcript of the originals.

April, 1859.



# JOURNALS

OF THE

## Proceedings of the Conventions.

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1790.

At a Convention held in Newport, November 18, 1790.  
The Churches of Newport, Providence and Bristol in  
representation.

Newport represented by

The Rev'd Wm. Smith, Rector of Trinity Church.  
Jno. Handy, } *Lay Delegates.*  
Robt. N. Auchmuty, }

Providence represented by

The Rev'd Moses Badger, Rector of King's Church.  
Jer. F. Jenkins, } *Lay Delegates.*  
Jno. Mumford, }

Bristol represented by

Jno. Usher, *Lay Delegate*, St. Michael's Church.

After authoritative testimonials from the different rep-  
resentatives were received and approved of,



The Rev'd Moses Badger was chosen President,  
Robt. Auchmuty, Secretary.

After having read and duly considered the seventeen Canons adopted by the General Convention, held in the City of Philadelphia, from the 29th of Sept. to the 26th of Oct. 1789, it was unanimously

*Voted*, That this Convention will adhere to and obey the above mentioned Canons, and recommend to their Standing Committee the strict observance of them.

*Voted*, That the following be added as an addition to the Sixth Canon, to be observed in this State—That no person shall be received by the Standing Committee of the Church in this State, as a Candidate for Holy Orders, unless he shall produce Testimonials that he hath been a regular Communicant for the two last years, certified by two Clergymen, with one or both of whom he has Communicated, or by three or more other Communicants, in case of the Vacancy of the Church or Churches of which the Candidate is a Member.

*Voted*, That this Convention approve of and will recommend to their respective Churches the Use of the revised Book of Common Prayer adopted by the late General Convention.

*Voted, by this Convention*, That the Church of this State be immediately united under a Bishop.

*Voted*, That the Right Rev'd Father in God, Samuel Seabury, D. D., Bishop of the Church of Connecticut, be and is hereby declared Bishop of the Church of this State; that the Rev'd Moses Badger and William Smith be requested to write and address him on the subject; and that the Letters of recognition and Episcopal acceptance be entered upon the Journals of this Convention; and farther, that Copies of said Letters be transmitted to the respective Churches in the State to be entered on their Records.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. Badger, the Rev'd William Smith and Mr. John Usher be the Standing Committee of this Convention.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. Smith be requested to write to the Churches of Bristol and Narragansett, representing to them the disadvantages resulting from the want of a regular ordained Minister.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of this Convention be given to the Rev'd Mr. Smith for his excellent discourse delivered this day, and that he be requested to favor us with a Copy for the Press.

The Convention adjourned *sine die*.

A true copy from the minutes.

(Signed.) ROBERT N. AUCHMUTY, *Sec'y*.

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1792.

At a Convention held in Providence, the 20th and 21st days of August, 1792. The Churches of Newport, Providence, Bristol, and Narragansett in representation.

Newport represented by

The Rev'd Wm. Smith, Rector of Trinity Church.  
Francis Malbone, *Lay Delegate*.

Providence represented by

John J. Clark,  
Jer. F. Jenkins, } *Lay Delegates*.  
John Mumford,

Bristol represented by

John Usher, *Lay Delegate*, St. Michael's Church.

Narragansett represented by

Daniel Updike, *Lay Delegate*, St. Paul's Church.

After authoritative testimonials from the different Representatives were received and approved of,

The Rev'd Wm. Smith was chosen President,  
Jer. F. Jenkins, Secretary.

The Convention, (after Prayers,) proceeded to take into consideration the Circumstances of the Church in Bristol, and of Mr. John Usher's having officiated so long and faithfully in the Capacity of a Lay Reader in that Church.

*Voted*, That a Letter be drafted and forwarded to Bishop Seabury for the purpose of expediting Mr. John Usher's Ordination, and for the further confirming and adding weight to a writing produced and read in this Convention, entitled, "An address to the Right Rev'd Bishop Seabury to obtain Holy Orders for John Usher, Reader in the Church of Bristol;" and signed by William Smith, Rector in Newport, Moses Badger, Rector King's Church, Providence, and that the proposed Letter receive the Signature of every member of this Convention.

A true Copy of the proposed Letter.

Rt. Rev'd Father in God :

The Convention of the Church in this State, assembled this day in the House of Samuel Chace, Esq., in Providence ; and upon taking into consideration the proposed promotion of Mr. John Usher in Bristol, to the honor and dignity of Holy Orders, upon the terms and conditions expressed and contained in a Writing entitled "An address to the Rt. Rev'd Bishop Seabury, to obtain Holy Orders for John Usher in Bristol;" and weighing, and well considering the Contents and intentions of said address, We, in our conventional and Synodical Capacity, hereby do approve and give our Sanction and Countenance to the Same, and desire the aforesaid John Usher to present himself before your Reverence for the aforesaid purpose, at as early a period as possible.

WILLIAM SMITH, *Pres. of Conv.*  
JOHN J. CLARK,  
JOHN MUMFORD,  
FRANCIS MALBONE.

*Providence, this 21st day of August, 1792.*

Rt. Rev'd Bishop Seabury.

(Signed.) JER'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary.*

Upon this, Mr. Usher retired for a little, and returning, put the following Letter into the hands of the President, which was read and approved of.

JER'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary.*

*Providence, August 21, 1792.*

Gentlemen :

From an ardent zeal to promote the Glory of God, from a strong desire to lead man into the way of happiness, from these motives I would wish to dedicate the few remaining days of my Life and usefulness to answer these purposes. Resting it also upon this Issue, that I trust myself inwardly thereunto moved.

On these principles, accept Gentlemen, of my warmest and sincerest thanks for the address, and the sanction given the address to Bishop Seabury on my behalf; and that as soon as it can be conveniently effected, shall present myself to our Rt. Rev'd Bishop Seabury, in order to answer your good intentions.

I am Gentlemen,  
Your humble Servant,  
JOHN USHER.

Signed,  
Rev'd Mr Smith and the Gentlemen of the Convention.

The attention of the Convention next was requested by Daniel Updike, Esq., the Delegate from a respectable Majority of the Congregation of St. Paul's Church in Narragansett, who presented them with two papers, each having the same signatures annexed, the one containing over and above the Testimonials of his Delegation, as well as the other expressions of the most earnest desire of having a Gentleman in Holy Orders to reside among them, in the way and manner prescribed by the Canons of the Church; withal recognizing the Rt. Rev'd Bishop Seabury, the Bishop recognized by the other Churches in this State in a former Convention at Newport, dated the 18th November, 1790. Whereupon it was



*Voted*, That the Standing Committee of the Church in this State, or a majority of them, (one of the Committee, Mr. Badger, being absent through sickness,) be desired to transmit to the Bishop a copy of these Representations and acknowledgement exhibited by Mr. Updike.

Copy of the Letter sent in consequence of the above vote.

Rt. Rev'd Father in God :

According to a Vote of this Convention we transmit the following delegation &c., presented to the Convention of the Church of this State, this day assembled in Providence, by Daniel Updike Esq., and signed by all the male Communicants and a very good Majority of the Original and present proprietors of St. Paul's Church in Narragansett.

• (True Copy.)

We, the Subscribers, the more effectually to accomplish our benevolent intentions towards St. Paul's Church, in North Kingstown, of which we are members and friends ; and the more effectually to prevent the unprecedented intrusion of a Person in said Church, whose deportment, in our Opinion, disqualifies him for so sacred a function, Do appoint Daniel Updike, and he is hereby appointed a Delegate to the Convention of the Church in this State, to be holden at Providence on the Twentieth day of August, A. D. 1792, with full and plenary power to acknowledge Bishop Seabury for our Diocesan, and to homologate the proceedings of all former general Conventions, to accede to those of the State Conventions, of which we hereby declare ourselves members ; to profess our adoption of the revised Prayer Book, and to act and do to the best of his judgment in Unity with our Sister Churches for their and our general and particular good ; and further that he communicate these our Sentiments and intentions to the Standing Committee of the Church in this State to be by them transmitted to the Bishop for the accomplishment of the end in view.

Signed,— Benj. Jefferson, James Reed, Ben. J. Nason, Benj. Sherman, Wm. Cole, Jere. Smith, Thos. Bissell, Martin Reed, Geo. Bissell, Hutch. Cole, Sam. Bissell, Peleg Brown, John Cole, jun'r., Hen. Brown, Robert Reed, Lod. Updike, jun'r., John Reed, Mat. Robinson, Mart. Reed, jun'r. Rufus Sweet, Nathan Gardner, Philip Case, Jere. Brown, jun'r., Sam. Pearce, Jas. Brown, Jas. Updike, Lod. Updike, Thos. Cole, John Cole, Gil-

bert Cooper, Eliz. Brown in behalf of her husband who's sick, Jas. Cooper, Rich'd Updike, John Brown.

The Convention are ascertained that the Majority of the persons signing the above are baptized, and comprehend all the male Communicants of St. Paul's Parish. Your Reverence shall hear farther from us in the course of a few weeks on this subject. We then shall transmit the Original Documents with duplicates; not only of the above, but of another paper of consequence and of similar intent and meaning, both having the same signatures annex'd.

With all duty and respect, we are

Rt. Rev'd Father in God.

Your Reverence's,

Most affectionate and ob't Servants,

Signed,

WILLIAM SMITH, } *Members of the St. Com.*  
JOHN USHER. }

Providence, 21 August, 1792.

The Rt. Rev'd Bishop Seabury.

*On motion*,—That the Condition of the landed property appertaining to, or claimable by, the Church of this State be inquired into. The Convention are unanimous in their opinion that it is highly expedient that Enquiry be made into the Condition and present appropriation of such Lands within this State, as have been devised in Trust to the Society for propagating the Gospel, &c., or, to which, the aggregate Body of the whole or any individual Church may have a just claim. Whereupon it was

*Voted*, That a Committee be appointed to enquire into the State of the Property belonging to the Society for propagating the Gospel, &c., in this State, as well as of any other property whatsoever, to which the Church in this State, either collectively or individually may have a just claim, and make their report accordingly. That this Committee consist of three members, and that they be William Smith, Rect. Tr. Ch. & Edward Mumford, Esq. in Newport, & Samuel Chace, Esq. in Providence.

*Voted*, That the Standing Committee be desired to forward the Proceedings of this Convention to our Diocesan.

Several pieces of business lying before the Convention which could not be accomplished at their present meeting, they postpone till their next meeting, which,

according to Vote, stands prorogued till the latter end of Oct. or beginning of November,—to be then holden at Providence.

As it is absolutely impossible to have a personal representation from their own Body at the ensuing Convention, to be holden at New-York, the first Wednesday of September next,—they are of opinion that a joint Representation with the Churches of Connecticut, being one Diocese with them, will answer every purpose,—and therefore it is

*Voted*, That whereas the Churches in Connecticut and those of Rhode Island are united under the same Diocesan, the Rt. Rev'd Bishop Seabury, the Delegates of the Church in Connecticut, be requested also to act as Delegates and Representatives from the Church in this State ; and be fully and amply authorized to appear in our behalf, and in all things to act and Do according to their judgment and discretion, we placing in them all full and ample Confidence ; and that the President of this Convention be desired to transmit them this vote and application.

(A true copy from the minutes.)

Here follows a Copy of the letter addressed to the Delegates of the Church in Connecticut, in consequence of the foregoing Vote.

Gentlemen : — Circumstanced as the Church in this State is, at present, we find ourselves under the Necessity of requesting your brotherly aid and assistance to represent us in the ensuing General Convention, as your Churches in Connecticut and ours in this State of Rhode Island do constitute but one and the Same Diocese, under the Rt. Rev'd Bishop Seabury.

We in Convention this 21st of August, 1792, have passed the vote recorded above.

That the divine assistance and blessing may accompany you in every laudable endeavor to promote the unity and perpetuate the happiness of the Churches of our One common Lord and Christ, is the most earnest prayer of Gentlemen,

Your most affectionate Brother and very humble Servant,

Signed,

WILLIAM SMITH.

Rect. Tr. ch. N. P. and Pr. of this Convention.  
*Providence, this 21st day of August, 1792.*

The Clerical and Lay Delegates from the Church in Connecticut to the General Convention of the American Episcopacy, to be holden at New York, the first Wednesday of September inst.

JER'H. F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

### 1793.

The Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church met in King's Church, July 31, 1793, at which time the Rev. John Usher was Promoted by the Right Rev'd Doctor Seabury, to the Holy Order of Priesthood, and the Conventional Sermon was Preached by the Rev'd Mr. Smith, of Newport.

*Present*,— Right Rev'd Sam'l Seabury.

Rev'd Wm. Smith, Rector of Trinity ch. Newport.

Rev'd Abra'm. L. Clark, King's ch. Providence.

Rev'd John Usher, of Bristol.

Mr. Auchmuty and Mr. Wickham, of Newport. }

Mr. John J. Clarke and J. Smith of Providence. }

Mr. Pearce of Bristol. }

Mr. Lippitt of Warwick. }

*Lay  
Delegates.*

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. Clark and Mr. Auchmuty, be appointed to present the thanks of this Convention to the Rev'd Mr. Smith for his excellent Discourse this Day delivered before the Convention.

*Voted*, That Jere'h F. Jenkins be appointed Secretary, and Simon Pease, Clerk of this Convention.

Adjourned till 4 o'clock, P. M.

Met at 4 o'clock, P. M.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. Clark, Rev'd Mr. Usher, Mr. John Smith and Mr. John Mumford be a Committee to Receive and examine the Papers now before the Convention Relative to Dr. Gardner, *Deacon* of the Church of Narragansett, and make report of their Doings to-morrow morning.



*Voted*, That this Convention be adjourned till 9 o'clock, Thursday morning.

*Thursday Morning 9 o'clock, Aug. 1st.*

Rev'd Mr. Usher Read Prayers.

*Ordered and Voted*, That the Report of the Committee this Day delivered, relative to Deacon Gardner and the Church of Narragansett, be received, and adopted, and entered upon the Record of this Convention.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

*Thursday Morning, Aug. 1, 1793.*

We, the Committee appointed to Receive and examine the Papers relative to the unhappy Separation of Dr. Gardner and the Corporate Body for the Ch'h in Narragansett from the Sister Churches in this State,—Do, after a Candid Examination and Mature deliberation, Report as follows :

*First.* That we conceive the Rev'd Mr. Smith of Newport, has in no instance deviated from the true and proper Character of a Minister and Member of the Standing Committee of this Church.

*Secondly.*—That as long as the Ch'h of Narragansett refuse to unite with the Ch'h's of this State and recognize their Conventional Doings, no Clergyman or person professing Communion with the Protestant Episcopal Church, could consistently with the *Dignity, Union, & Peace* of those Ch'hs Recommend Dr. W. C. Gardner for *Holy Orders*, and therefore we conceive the Proceedings of the Standing Com'tee of Massachusetts were inconsistent with every principle of Epis'l Government, and have an evident tendency to introduce Disorder and promote Schism, and that the Promotion of Dr. Gardner by Bishop Provost was directly contrary to the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

*Thirdly.*—With Regard to Dr. Gardner, it is our ardent wish that since he Professes the Greatest desire of conciliating the existing difficulty by returning to the Bosom of the Ch'h, and has also promised, as appears by a letter from Dr Moore to Bishop Seabury, "that he would use every means in his power to re-unite his Church with the Ch'hs in Rhode Island." We are therefore of Opinion that he ought, and we flatter ourselves that he will immediately unite with, and subscribe to, the Constitution of the Ch'hs in this State, and engage to use his influence with the Par-

ishioners or rather Body Corporate of St. Paul's Ch'h to do the same as soon as may be convenient,—and upon his Compliance with this, our Requisition,—that he be recognized as a Clergyman in union with the Churches of Rhode-Island, and entitled to all the Rights and Privileges of the same, and the more effectually to secure the affections of the Good People in Narragansett, wh'h have been, we are sorry to find, alienated from Dr. Gardner in consequence of their late Charter,—Do most earnestly recommend Dr. Gardner to concur with the wishes of several of his Parishioners in Petitioning the Legislature to revise and Grant them a Charter, Similar in every respect to the Charters of the Ch'hs of Newport and Providence.

In Witness whereof we have hereunto affixed our Names,—  
Dated as above.

ABRAH'M L. CLARKE, Rector of King's Ch'h, Providence.

JOHN USHER, Resident Minister at Bristol.

JOHN SMITH,

JOHN MUMFORD, } Lay Deputies.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M., then to meet at the house of Jere'h F. Jenkins, Secretary.

*Thursday afternoon.*

Met at the house of Mr. Jenkins.

Mr. Pearce, of Bristol, requested and had leave of Absence.

*Voted*, That the following Gentlemen be and they are hereby appointed the Standing Com'tee of this State, viz: Rev. Mr. Smith, Rev. Mr. Clarke, Rev. Mr. Usher, Mr. Auchmuty, John I. Clarke and Rich'd Pearce.

*Voted*, That the Lay Gentlemen of the Standing Com'ttee obtain and inquire into the present State of the landed or Pecuniary Property claimable either by individual Ch'hs, or the aggregate of them, and report to the next Convention.

*Voted*, That the Standing Com'ttee be authorized to address the Legislature of this State on the subject of the Charter of St. Paul's Church in Narragansett, if they should judge it expedient.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Bowden and Mr. Marsh of Conn. for Representing this Ch'h in the last General Convention at New-York, 1792.

Mr. Wickham had leave of Absence.

*Voted*, That a Blank Book be provided for the Purpose of entering all Sermons that may be delivered either by Desire of the Bishop or of the State Convention.

*Voted unanimously*, That a true copy of the report of the Com'tee be transmitted by the Secretary to the Rt. Rev'd Bishop Provost, one to the Standing Com'tee of Mass'tts, and one to Dr. Moore and Mr. Bissett of New-York.

*Voted unanimously*, That it be recommended to the Ch'hs of this Convention to grant a semi-annual Collection for the purpose of defraying our Diocesan's travelling expenses in visiting us, viz: on Easter Sunday, or the Sunday immediately before or after, and on the first Sunday of November, or the Sunday immediately before or after, as to them shall seem most expedient, which Collections shall be transmitted to the Bishop, or to the Standing Committee, and proper Records kept of Such Collections and transmissions.

*On motion Voted*, That the contending Parties in the Ch'h of Narragansett, present to the Standing Com'tee of this Convention, a full and Sufficient Statement of their respective Situations in Regard to each other, as well as an authoritative Ascertainment of their Acceding or non-acceding to the Eccle'l Economy and Constitution of the Several State and General Conventions hitherto held, on or before the 25th of Nov'r, 1793, and that the State Com'ttee within one month after their Receiving such Documents, snall transmit them with their Opinion thereupon to the Bishop, for his inspection and Sentence,—and further that in order to avoid bringing the Question again before the Convention,—the Standing Com'ttee are hereby authorized to accept and present to the Bishop for his Acceptance, either of the Contending Parties and to declare the non-acceding Party, by their own Act and Deed, Self excluded, and in a State of Alienation and Schism.

*Voted*, That the Secretary transmit to Dr. Gardner and Mr. Updike, true Copies of the above vote.

JER'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

*S. Pease, Clerk of the Conv.*

Adjourned *sine die*.

## 1794.

At a Convention held in Newport, October 8, 1794.  
The Churches of Newport, Providence and Bristol in  
Representation.

Newport represented by

The Rev'd Wm. Smith, Rector of Trinity Church.

Mr. Geo. Gibbs, }  
Mr. John Handy, } *Lay Delegates.*

Providence represented by

The Rev'd Ab'm L. Clarke, Rector of St. John's Church.

Mr. John I. Clark. }  
Mr. John Smith, } *Lay Delegates.*  
Mr. John Mumford. }

Bristol represented by

The Rev'd John Usher, Rector of St. John's Church.

After Divine Service, met in Trinity Church.

The Rev'd Ab'm L. Clarke was Chosen President.

Jere. Fones Jenkins, Secretary.

*Voted* 1st, To adjourn to the Parsonage House.

Met at the Parsonage House 3 o'clock, the above  
named Members all present.

*Voted* 2d, That George Gibbs and Robert N Auchmuty be a  
Committee to Inquire into the situation of a Lott of Land sup-  
posed to contain Forty acres, in Tiverton, which is said to have  
been given for the use of the Episcopal Church, and also to inquire  
into all Lands belonging to the Episcopal Church in the County  
of Washington, and Report on the Same at the next meeting of  
this Convention.

*Voted* 3d, That the Rev'd John Usher and Mr. Rich'd Pearce  
be a Committee to inquire into the Situation of a Lott of Land in  
the Town of Warren, which is said to be given for the use of the  
Episcopal Church, and report on the same at the next meeting of  
this Convention.

*Voted* 4th, That the Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke, Mr. John  
Bourse and Mr. Robert N. Auchmuty, be a Committee to draft a  
Constitution for the Episcopal Church of this State, which shall be



presented each Congregation for their Revision and Approbation, at their next Easter meeting, and be transmitted to the next meeting of this Convention for Ratification.

*Voted* 5th, That the Rev'd William Smith and Rev'd John Usher be appointed a Committee to return the thanks of this Convention to the Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke, for his Agreeable Discourse this Day delivered in Trinity Church before them.

*Voted* 6th, That the Rev'd William Smith, Rev'd Ab'm L. Clarke, Rev'd John Usher, also John I. Clark, John Handy and Richard Pearce be appointed a Standing Committee of this Convention for the present year.

*Voted* 7th, That this Convention stand adjourned to meet at Bristol, at such time as the Standing Committee shall think proper to appoint.

A true Copy from the minutes.

JERE'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary.*

### 1795.

At a Convention held in Bristol 8th July, 1795, at the House of the Rev'd John Usher.

*Present.* The Right Rev'd Bishop Seabury.  
Rev'd William Smith.  
Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke.  
Rev'd John Usher.

Robert N. Auchmuty, of Newport.  
John Smith, Esq., John I. Clark, Esq., John  
Mumford, and Jere'h F. Jenkins, of Providence.

Simeon Potter, Richard Pearce, Hezekiah Usher, of Bristol.

*Lay  
Delegates.*

*Voted*, That Rev'd Mr. Smith, Mr. Bourse and Mr. Auchmuty be a Committee to write to the Society in London for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, informing them that they are the Trustees of Several Estates in this State, left for the benefit of the different Episcopal Churches, and as they are now, by

the situation of the two countries, unable to attend to that trust, to request them to convey it to this Convention when they shall be duly incorporated.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr Smith, Mr Auchmuty and Mr. Bourse be appointed a Committee to draft a Petition to the Gen'l Assembly of this State to procure the Incorporation of this Convention and to draft a Charter for the same, &c.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Jno. Usher and Mr. Rich'd Pearce be a Committee, to obtain a Copy of the Will, relating to a Lott of Land in the Town of Warren, said to be given to the Church, and report to the next Convention.

*Voted unanimously*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to Col. Simeon Potter, for his very generous Benefactions and Patronage of St. Michael's Church, in Bristol, and that Mr. John Innes Clarke, Mr. R. N. Auchmuty and Mr. Hezekiah Usher, be a Committee to present the same.

*Voted*, That the Convention adjourn to attend Divine Service at Church, and meet again at 3 o'clock, at the House of Rev'd John Usher.

Met again at 3 o'clock.

*Voted*, That the following be adopted by this Convention, as the Constitution for the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Rhode Island, viz :

ARTICLE 1st.—The Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Rhode Island, hath, and ought to have, in common with all other denominations of christians, full and unalienable powers to regulate the Concerns of their own Communion.

ART. 2d.—Under the protection and agreeable to the Institution of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, this Church shall always hold the three Orders of Bishop, Priest and Deacon, as essentially and indispensably necessary to the right and due administration of the Word and Sacraments.

ART. 3d.—This Church shall continue in connection with the Church in the State of Connecticut, as one diocese, until it may be deemed by the then existing Convention, expedient or necessary to have a Bishop to reside within this State.

ART. 4th.—An annual Convention consisting of the Clergy and one or more Lay Delegates from each Congregation, shall be holden on the Second Wednesday in July, or on any other day

appointed by the Bishop and Standing Committee of the State, in each Parish, by rotation, and to be always opened with Prayers and a Sermon.

ART. 5th.—The Bishop, if present, shall preside, ex-officio,—but, if absent, the Rector of the Parish where the Convention is held, shall preside, de jure ; and the articles and canons of the General Convention, shall be the rule whereby the Convention shall act.

\*ART. 6th. At every annual Convention there shall be appointed a Standing Committee, consisting of the Clergy and one Lay member from each Church, whose extent and duty and power shall, from time to time, be defined by the Convention, and they shall report their proceedings to every ensuing Convention.

ART. 7th.—The Clergy and Laity in Convention, shall deliberate and vote as one Body, (but if required by any member, may vote as two distinct orders), and the joint concurrence of both shall be necessary to give validity to every measure.

ART. 8th.—Every Clergyman canonically ordained and inducted into any Congregation in this State, shall be deemed as a member of this Convention, ex-officio.

ART. 9th.—If any Clergyman in this State, shall demean himself in such manner as to incur censure, his crimination shall be made out in writing, and signed by two or three Witnesses as directed in the holy Scriptures, and forwarded to the Bishop, in order that he may proceed with the same, according to the nature and evidence of the accusation.

ART. 10th.—If any Clergyman shall exclude from the Holy Communion, any one of the communicants, he shall transmit an account of his so doing to the Bishop, within forty days, with the nature of the offence, and the evidence by which the charge is supported ; and the Bishop's sentence shall be decisive, unless the suspended person think proper to appeal to a council of Bishops.

\*ART. 11th.—If any communicant shall withdraw himself from the Holy Communion, for the space of twelve months, without a good and satisfactory reason for his so doing to his Minister when required of him, he shall be considered as self-excommunicated, and the Bishop shall be informed thereof. But upon said person's serious application to the Minister and other Communicants to be received, unless objections arise, as they think, sufficient for them to determine otherwise.

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\*Repealed at the Convention, June, 1813.

ART. 12th.—If a Clergyman thinks himself aggrieved by any of his Parishioners, or if a Parishioner, on the other hand, thinks he is aggrieved by his Clergyman so highly that a reconciliation cannot be brought about by private conferences, or by interposition of friends, which method shall be first tried, the party aggrieved may complain to the Bishop, in writing, stating the nature of his complaint with his proofs.

\*ART. 13th.—If any grievance as aforesaid cannot be settled by the Bishop alone, it may be brought before the next Convention, whose determination thereon shall be final and binding on the parties.

*Voted*, That the Secretary transmit a Copy of the proposed articles of the Constitution, to each of the Congregations in this State for their adoption, and that they be requested to transmit to the Secretary thereon, that he may be enabled to make returns to the next ensuing Convention.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of the Convention be presented to the Rev'd Mr. Clarke, for his Excellent discourse this day delivered before them.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Wm. Smith, Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke, Geo. Gibbs, Esq'r, Col. Simeon Potter, John Smith, Esq'r and Robert N. Auchmuty, be appointed to Represent the Church in this State in General Convention, to be holden in Philadelphia, the Second Tuesday in Sept'r next.

*Voted*, That this Convention is adjourned till the Second Wednesday in July next, then to meet in St. John's Church, Providence.

A true Copy from the Minutes.

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

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\*Repealed at the Convention, June, 1813.



1796.

At a Convention held in Saint John's Church, Providence, August 7, 1796.

*Present*,—The Rev'd Wm. Smith,  
 Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke,  
 Rev'd John Usher,  
 John Smith, Esq'r,  
 John I. Clark, Esq'r, }  
 John Mumford, Esq'r, } *Lay Delegates.*  
 Cyprian Sterry, Esq'r, }

Jeremiah F. Jenkins, *Secretary.*

Met at half-past Ten o'clock. The Rev'd Mr. Usher opened the Convention with Prayers, and the Rev'd Mr. Smith gave an excellent Learned Discourse. After Divine Service, proceeded to Business.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented by the Secretary, to the Rev'd Mr. Smith for his much approved Sermon, delivered this day, on the occasion.

*Voted*, That the Rev'ds Messrs. Smith, Usher, Clarke, John I. Clark and John Smith, Esq'rs, be appointed a Standing Committee for the present year.

*Voted*, That the next Annual Convention be held at Newport, in Trinity Church, on the Second Wednesday in July next.

A True Copy from the Minutes.

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Secretary.*

In consequence of a Request made to the Standing Committee of this State, to postpone the meeting of our Annual Convention, which was to have been holden on the 2d Wednesday of July, in Trinity Church, Newport,—

We, the Standing Committee, have taken the same into consideration, and after deliberating upon the Propriety of the Request, Do hereby, under the Authority of the fourth Article of our State Constitution, Postpone the meeting of the said Convention, to some day either in the Month of September or October, as shall be found most convenient to ourselves, and to our Brethren in Trinity

Church, Newport, of which, official notice will be given, and we do hereby authorize the Secretary of our Convention, to notify this, our present Determination to the several Churches in this State.

Witness our hands,—

A true copy.

ABRAHAM L. CLARKE.

JOHN USHER,

JOHN I. CLARK,

JOHN SMITH,

} *Standing  
Committee.*

Done at Providence, July 1, A. D., 1797.

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Secretary.*

In consequence of the absence of the Rev. Mr. Clarke, and that of the Rev'd Mr. John Gardner, of Boston, declining to take charge of Trinity Church, at Newport, and that of the Rev'd Mr. Usher requesting an adjournment of the meeting of the Convention,—

We, a part of the Standing Committee, have taken the same into Consideration, and do hereby, under the Authority of our Constitution, further postpone the meeting of the Convention to some day in June or July, next ensuing, of which official notice will be given,—and we authorize the Secretary of the Convention to notify this Determination to the several churches in this State.

Witness our Hands,—

A true copy.

JOHN I. CLARK,

JOHN SMITH,

} *Standing Com'te.*

Done at Providence, Oct. 2d, 1797.

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Secretary.*

1798,

At a Convention held in Trinity Church, at Newport, on Wednesday, the 11th day of July, 1798.

*Present.*— The Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke,  
Rev'd John Usher,  
Rev'd Theodore Dehon.

|                         |                       |   |             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|-------------|
| <i>Lay Delegates.</i> — | John Bourse,          | } | Newport.    |
|                         | John Handy,           |   |             |
|                         | Rob't N. Auchmuty,    |   |             |
|                         | Francis Brindley,     |   |             |
|                         | Christopher Champlin, |   |             |
|                         | George Gibbs,         | } | Providence. |
|                         | John Smith,           |   |             |
|                         | John Mumford,         |   |             |
|                         | Richard Pearce,       |   | Bristol.    |

Met at 11 o'clock.

The Rev'd Mr. Dehon opened the Convention with Prayers, and the Rev'd Mr. Clarke delivered an excellent moral Sermon.

At half-past 12 o'clock proceeded to Business. The Rev'd Mr. Clarke chosen President.

The Rev'd Mr. Dehon presented credentials of his appointment to the Rectorship of Trinity Church, at Newport, and also a Certificate of the choice of Delegates to represent said Church, in Convention, certified by the Vestry Clerk.

Similar assurances were verbally presented from St. John's Church, Providence, and St. Michael's Church, Bristol,—the Certificates being casually left.

*Voted,* That the alteration in the third article in the State Convention, as proposed by Trinity Church, be amended and adopted.

*Voted,* That the 11th Article be expunged from the Constitution.

*Voted,* That the 13th Article be expunged.

*Voted,* That the proposed addition to the Articles, be Adopted.

*Voted*, That the Constitution, as now altered and amended, be received and established as the Constitution of the Churches of his State.

ARTICLE. 1st.—The Protestant Episcopal Church in this State of Rhode Island, hath and ought to have, in common with all other Denominations of Christians, full and unalienable Powers to regulate the concerns of their own Communion.

ART. 2d. Under the Protection, and agreeable to the Institution of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, this Church shall always hold the three Orders of Bishop, Priest and Deacon, as essentially and indispensably necessary to the right and due administration of the Word and Sacraments.

ART. 3d. The Convention shall have discretionary Power to invite any American Bishop, to comprehend the Churches in this State in his Diocese, until it shall be deemed expedient by the then existing Convention to elect a Bishop, who shall reside in this State.

ART. 4th.—An annual Convention consisting of the Clergy and one or more lay Delegates from each Congregation, shall be holden on the Second Wednesday in July, or any other day appointed by the Bishop and Standing Committee of the State, in each Parish, by rotation, and to be always opened with Prayers and a Sermon.

ART. 5th.—The Bishop, if present, shall preside, *ex-officio*,—but, if absent, the Rector of the Parish, where the Convention is held, shall preside *de jure*, and the Articles and Canons of the General Convention, shall be the Rule whereby the Convention shall act.

ART. 6th.—At every annual Convention, there shall be appointed a Standing Committee, consisting of the Clergy and one lay member from each Church, whose extent of duty and Power, shall from time to time be defined by the Convention, and they shall report their Proceedings to every ensuing Convention.

ART. 7th.—The Clergy and Laity in Convention, shall deliberate and vote in one Body, but, if required by any member, may vote as two distinct Orders, and the joint Concurrence of both shall be necessary to give Validity to every measure.

ART. 8th.—Every Clergyman canonically ordained and inducted into any Congregation in this State, shall be deemed a member, *ex-officio*.

ART. 9th.—If any Clergyman in this State shall demean him-



self in such manner as to incur Censure, his Crimination shall be made out in writing and signed by two or three Witnesses, as directed in the Holy Scriptures, and forwarded to the Bishop, in order that he may proceed with the same according to the nature and evidence of the accusation.

ART. 10th.—If any Clergyman shall exclude from the Holy Communion any one of the Communicants, he shall transmit an account of his so doing to the Bishop, within forty days, with the Nature of the offence and the evidence by which the charge is supported, and the Bishop's sentence shall be decisive, unless the suspended person shall think proper to appeal to a Council of Bishops.

ART. 11th.—If a Clergyman thinks himself aggrieved by any of his Parishioners, or if any Parishioner, on the other hand, thinks he is aggrieved by his Clergyman so highly that a reconciliation cannot be brought about by private conferences, or by the interposition of friends, which shall be first tried, the party aggrieved may complain to the Bishop, in writing, stating the nature of his complaint, with his proofs; and the Bishop's sentence shall be decisive, unless the parties appeal to a Council of Bishops.

ART. 12th.—That any Church in this State which has not acceded to the Constitution, may hereafter; and on so doing, may be entitled to a representation in the Convention of this State.

That the Convention adjourn to meet again in Church at 4 o'clock.

Met at 4 o'clock, all the members present except Geo. Gibbs, Esq.

That the present Secretary be chosen for the present year.

*Voted*, That Robert N. Auchmuty and Benjamin Gardner of Newport, and William Larned and Jeremiah F. Jenkins of Providence, be lay Delegates to represent the Church of this State in General Convention at Philadelphia, in September next.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. Clarke with Jeremiah F. Jenkins, be appointed to examine, correct and amend the minutes of this Convention.

*Voted*, That the Convention recommend to the individual Churches, through their Delegates, to make provision for defraying

the expenses of those Delegates, who may go on to represent the Churches of this State in the General Convention, at Philadelphia, in September next.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Messrs. Abraham L. Clarke, J. Usher, Theodore Dehon, Robert N. Auchmuty, John I. Clark and John Smith, Esq'r, be a Standing Committee.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention, be presented to the Rev'd Mr. Clarke, for his much approved discourse this day.

*Voted*, That the Convention do now proceed to the Election of a Bishop, to superintend the Church in this State.

*Voted*, That the Right Rev'd Doctor Bass, (having been duly elected and consecrated for the Church of Massachusetts,) be chosen by the members of this Convention, as the Bishop of our Church.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Messrs. Abraham L. Clarke, John Usher and Theodore Dehon, be a Committee to write to the Rev'd Doctor Bass, and solicit him to take charge of the Churches in this State.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke, John Usher and Theodore Dehon, together with Robert N. Auchmuty and John Handy, Esq'rs, be a Committee in behalf of this Convention, to apply to the "Society for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign Parts"; acquaint them with the Death of Mrs. Case, relict of the late John Case, Esq'r, of Narragansett, and request to make over their trust in that Estate, to the Rectors of the Churches in Providence and Newport, Bristol and Narragansett, and to their Successors; that it may be appropriated by them according to the intention of the Testator.

*Adjourned without day.*

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Secretary.*

*Boston, July 20, 1798.*

Reverend and Honored,

Your Election of me to preside over your respectable Church, the account of which I have received by Rev'd Mr. Dehon, does me much honor. Your notice of me in this way is very flattering. Having taken upon me the charge of the Church in this Commonwealth, the extension of my Diocese should not be very agreeable to me under the sense of my inability duly and properly to discharge the duties of it.

I cannot however withstand your unanimous voice, and shall endeavor by the grace and assistance of Almighty God, to pay all the attention to your Church, that shall be consistent with my other duties.

I am, Gentlemen, with the greatest respect and consideration,  
your faithful humble Servant,

EDWARD,

Bishop of the prot. epis. Church, in Massachusetts.

Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode Island.

We, the Standing Committee of the Church of Rhode Island, having received a Letter from our Diocesan announcing that the Bishops of the State Churches have ordered a Special General Convention, on the Eleventh Day of June, in the City of Philadelphia, and being requested to Call a State Convention, before the time of our annual meeting in July,—Do therefore, under the fourth Article of our State Constitution, hereby order and appoint Wednesday, the 15th of May next, for the meeting of said Convention, and We do hereby authorize and request Mr. Jeremiah F. Jenkins, the Secretary of our Episcopal Convention, to notice the Churches of the same and solicit them to appear, duly represented, at 10 o'clock, A. M., on the above mentioned Day in the Church of Bristol.

As Witness our hands, this 26th Day of April, 1799.

Signed,

ABRAHAM L. CLARKE,

JOHN USHER,

JOHN SMITH,

JOHN INNES CLARK,

THEODORE DEHON,

ROBERT N. AUCHMUTY.

} *Standing  
Committee.*

1799.

At a Convention held in St. Michael's Church, Bristol,  
Wednesday, May 15, 1799,

*Present*,—The Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke,  
The Rev'd John Usher,  
The Rev'd Theodore Dehon.

|  |   |             |
|--|---|-------------|
| <i>Lay Delegates</i> .—Francis Brindley, | } | Newport.    |
| Christo. Champlin,                       |   |             |
| John Bourse,                             |   |             |
| Benja. Gardner,                          |   |             |
| Robert N. Auchmuty.                      | } | Providence. |
| John Smith,                              |   |             |
| John Mumford,                            |   |             |
| Jere'h Olney,                            |   |             |
| Jere'h F. Jenkins,                       |   |             |
| Moses Lippitt,                           | } | Bristol.    |
| Richard Pearce,                          |   |             |
| Nath'l Munro,                            |   |             |
| Dan'l Banass,                            |   |             |

Met at half-past 10 o'clock at Church. The Rev'd Mr. Clarke opened the Convention with Prayers, and the Rev'd Mr. Dehon gave a very acceptable Discourse.—After Divine Service, proceeded to Business.

The Rev'd Mr. Usher, declining to accept the Presidency of the Convention, as pointed out by the Constitution, the Rev'd Mr. Clarke was unanimously Elected, and Presided.

The Rev'd Mr. Clarke, proposed that the Rev'd Joseph Warren, be admitted and received as a Member of this Convention, from the Church of Saint Paul's, Narragansett.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Joseph Warren, be received as a Member of this Convention.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Messrs. Abraham L. Clarke and Theodore Dehon, are Chosen to Represent the Church of this State, in



General Convention, at Philadelphia, the second Tuesday in June next.

Adjourned from Church to Rev'd Mr. Usher's House.

Met again at half-past 2 o'clock.

*Voted*, That Messrs. Robert N. Auchmuty, of Newport, and William Larned, of Providence, be chosen lay Delegates, to represent this Church, in General Convention, in June, next at Philadelphia.

N. B.—There being four Delegates appointed to represent the Church of this State, in the next General Convention, either one of which going on, his expenses, it is fully agreed, shall be defrayed by the several Churches.

*Voted*, That the annual meeting of this State Convention be in future, on the first Wednesday in June, instead of the second Wednesday in July.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Messrs. Abraham L. Clarke, John Usher, Theodore Dehon, and Joseph Warren, with Messrs. Robert N. Auchmuty, John Smith and Richard Pearce, be a Standing Committee.

*Voted*, That the Committee appointed at the last Convention, held in Newport, the 11th of July, 1798, be empowered to request the society in England, to convey to the Rectors of the different Churches in this State, all their right or trust in any other property, which may have been vested in them for the use of the Church in the present State of Rhode Island, late Colony, &c., and their successors.

*Voted*, That the Representation from Christopher Champlin, Esq'r, as respects the Church Land, in Narragansett, is fully satisfactory and acceptable to the Convention.

*Voted*, That this Convention do concur in the amendment of the Providence Episcopal Church, as proposed in General Convention, in the City of Philadelphia, September, 1795.

*Voted*, That each Church represented in this Convention, shall have four votes; that whenever more than four Delegates from any Church attend, they shall enjoy the right of session and debate, but the Privilege of Voting shall be to the four first Elected; and in case any Church shall not be fully represented, then each of their Delegates present, shall have one vote.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev'd Mr. Dehon, for his excellent Discourse this Day.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented the Secretary for his Services.

*Voted*, That Jeremiah F. Jenkins, be Chosen Secretary for this Convention. [Opposed by the Secretary].

Adjourned *sine die*.

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

### 1800.

At a regular Convention held in St. John's Church, 10 o'clock, Wednesday Morning, June 4th, 1800.

|                                    |   |                   |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| <i>Present</i> ,—John Innes Clark, | } | <i>Delegates.</i> |
| John Smith,                        |   |                   |
| Jeremiah Olney,                    |   |                   |
| William Larned,                    |   |                   |

No Representation appearing from either of the other Churches in this State, it was expedient to adjourn *without Day*, and voted accordingly.

JERE'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

### 1801.

At the annual Convention held in St. Michael's Church, Bristol, on Wednesday, 3d June, 1801.

*Present*,—The Right Rev'd Bishop Bass.  
 Rev'd John Usher.  
 Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke.  
 Rev'd Theodore Dehon.  
 Rev'd Abraham Brunson.

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| <i>Lay Delegates</i> ,—Benjamin Gardner, | Newport.      |
| Jeremiah F. Jenkins,                     | } Providence. |
| William Allen,                           |               |
| William Larned,                          |               |
| John Carlile,                            |               |
| Nathaniel Munro,                         | } Bristol.    |
| William Pierce,                          |               |
| James Munro,                             |               |
| Edw'd Munro,                             |               |

Met at 11 o'clock, at the Church, and opened the Convention with Prayers by the Rev'd Mr. Brunson,—and an excellent Discourse by the Right Rev'd Bishop Bass ; after which the Convention proceeded to business.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke, John Usher, Theodore Dehon, Ab'm Brunson, with Messrs. Robert N. Auchmuty, of Newport, John Smith, of Providence, Richard Pearce, of Bristol, be a Standing Committee.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Abraham L. Clarke, and the Rev'd Theodore Dehon be Delegates to attend the General Convention at Trenton, the second Tuesday in Sept'r next.

*Voted*, That John I. Clark, William Allen, Thomas L. Halsey, be Lay Delegates for Providence ; Benj. Gardner, George Gibbs, Robert N. Auchmuty, for Newport.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented the worthy Bishop for his excellent discourse this Day.

*Voted*, To adjourn the Convention to meet at half past 3 o'clock, at the Rev'd Mr. Usher's.

Met again at half-past three o'clock.

*Voted*, That the annual State Convention meet at Newport, on Wednesday, the second day of June, 1802.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. Clarke be requested to prepare a Sermon for the next Convention.

Convention adjourned *without day*.

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

Adjourned to the 29th June.

1802.

*Newburyport, May 21, 1802.*

It being represented to me that it is expedient to adjourn the Episcopal Church Convention of the State of Rhode Island, from Wednesday, the second day of June, to Tuesday, the twenty-ninth of said month, then to meet in Trinity Church, at Newport, I therefore, in union with the Standing Committee, authorize the Secretary to notify the same agreeably thereto.

Signed, EDWARD,  
Bishop of Massachusetts and Rhode Island  
Signed THEODORE DEHON, }  
JOHN SMITH, } *Standing Com'te.*  
ROBERT N. AUCHMUTY. }

It being found expedient from Circumstances unavoidable to adjourn the Convention again from the 29th June to St. Michael's day, the 29th September—I was under the necessity of assuming the same.

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Secretary.*

Copies of Notifications, published in the Providence Gazette, June 26, 1802, viz :

“ Notice is hereby given that the annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State will be held at Trinity Church in Newport on Tuesday the 29th of June inst.”—“ By order ”

Signed “ JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Sec'ry.* ”

“ Notice—It is found expedient from Circumstances unavoidable, that the Episcopal Church Convention be adjourned until St. Michael's Day, being Wednesday the 29th of September next ”—1802.

Signed J. F. JENKINS, *Sec'ry.*



*Providence, Wednesday, Sept'r 29, 1802.*

By reason of the absence of the Clergy, the meeting of the adjourned Convention was deem'd by the Providence Members to be unnecessary—consequently was Unattended to & not Notified to Meet.

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Sec't'y.*

1806.

At a Convention duly notified, held at Newport in Trinity Church on Wednesday, 12th November, 1806.

The Churches of Newport, Providence, Bristol and Narragansett. It was unanimously agreed to open the Convention at the Church Glebe.

Newport represented by

The Rev'd Theodore Dehon, Rector of Trinity Church,  
Rev'd John Ward, Assistant to Trinity Church.

Francis Brinley,  
Robert N. Auchmuty, Benja. Gardner, } *Lay Delegates.*  
Simeon Martin,

Providence represented by

The Rev'd John Blackburn, Rector of St. John's Church.

John I. Clark,  
Jere'h F. Jenkins, } *Lay Delegates.*  
Jno. Mumford,

Bristol represented by

The Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, Rector of St. Michael's Church.

William Pierce, *Lay Delegate.*

Narragansett or Wickford Church, St. Paul's, represented by

John Gardner as *Lay Delegate*.

After authoritative testimonials from the different Representatives were presented and approved, the Convention proceeded to Business.

The Rev'd Theodore Dehon, Presiding President,  
Jere'h F. Jenkins, Secretary.

*Voted*, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the Lands said to be Bequeathed for the benefit of the Episcopal Church in this State, particularly at Warren and Tivertown.

*Voted*, That William Pierce, Charles Collins and Benjamin Bosworth be a Committee to ascertain what Land there is belonging to the Episcopal Church of this State, said to be in Warren, and report the same to the Secretary as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Robert N. Auchmuty, Benjamin Gardner and Simeon Martin be a Committee to ascertain what Land there is in Tivertown belonging to the Episcopal Church in this State, and make report of the same to the Secretary as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That the Reverends Theodore Dehon, Alexander V. Griswold, John L. Blackburn & Jno. Ward with Messrs John Bourse, John Mumford, William Pierce and John Gardner be the Standing Committee.

*Voted*, That this Convention will now proceed to the Election of a Bishop.

*Voted unanimously*, That the Right Reverend Benjamin Moore, D. D. &c, Bishop of the protestant Episcopal Church in the State of New York, be and is elected Bishop of the Church in this State, and that the Reverends Theodore Dehon, Alexander V. Griswold, John L. Blackburn & John Ward be a Committee to inform said Bishop of his Election, and to solicit earnestly his acceptance of the Same.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Theodore Dehon be Chosen to Preach a Sermon before the next Convention to meet at Providence, & in case of failure that the Rev'd John Ward perform the Same.

*Voted unanimously*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented by the Secretary to the Rev'd Mr. Griswold for his much approved orthodox sermon delivered this Day.

This Convention adjourned *sine die*.

JER'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

1807.

*Providence, Wednesday, June 3d, 1807.*

At an annual Convention held this day at St. John's Church, Providence, duly notified.

Newport represented by

The Rev'd Theodore Dehon, Rector of Trinity Church.

Rev'd John Ward, Assistant to Trinity Church.

Benjamin Gardner, } *Lay Delegates.*  
Samuel Whitehorn, }

Providence represented by

The Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker, Minister St. John's Church.

John T. Clark,

Thomas L. Halsey,

Jer'h F. Jenkins,

John Mumford,

} *Lay Delegates.*

No representation from either of the Churches of Bristol or Narragansett.

Authoritative testimonials from the Representatives were produced and approved.

The Rev'd Nathan Bourn Crocker presided President.

Jeremiah F. Jenkins, Secretary.

*Voted*, That the Standing Committee shall consist of the Rev'd Theodore Dehon, Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, Rev'd Nathan Bourn Crocker, Rev'd John Ward, with Mr. John Bourse.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd John Ward be chosen to Preach a sermon before the next Convention, and that the Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker in case of failure, be prepared to perform that Duty.

*Voted unanimously*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented by the Secretary to the Rev'd Mr. Dehon, for his Excellent Sermon delivered this Day.

*Voted*. That the next Convention be held at Bristol, and that the Secretary give a fortnight's previous Notice of the same in the Providence and Newport Papers.

This Convention adjourned, *sine die*.

JERE'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

## 1808.

At a Special Convention, duly Notified, held at St. Michael's Church, Bristol, on Tuesday the third day of May, 1808.

The Churches of Newport, Providence and Bristol being represented as follows :

Newport by

The Rev'd Theodore Dehon, Rector of Trinity Church.

Rev'd John Ward, Assistant to Trinity Church,

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Robert N. Auchmuty, | } <i>Lay Delegates.</i> |
| Benjamin Gardner,   |                         |
| Samuel Whitehorn,   |                         |
| William Crooke,     |                         |

Providence by

Rev'd Nathan Bourn Crocker, Rector St. John's.

|                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| John Munford,      | } <i>Lay Delegates.</i> |
| Jere'h F. Jenkins. |                         |



Bristol by

Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, Rector St. Michael's.

|                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| William Pierce,   | } <i>Lay Delegates.</i> |
| Jon'a W. Russell, |                         |
| Charles Collins,  |                         |
| Allen Bourne,     |                         |

No representation from the Church at Wickford, Narragansett.

*Voted*, That it is Expedient, the annual Business that would be taken up on Wednesday, first day of June next, be transacted at this Convention.

*Voted*, That the Standing Committee be continued the same as were Elected the year previous.

*Voted*, That the Reverends Theodore Dehon, Alexander V. Griswold, Nathan B. Crocker, & Jo. Ward, be and are hereby Elected to Represent the Church of this State, at the next General Convention to be held at Baltimore, State Maryland.

*Voted*, That John Innes Clark, Jere'h F. Jenkins, and Allen Bourne, be Elected to Represent this Church at the General Convention.

*Voted*, That Thanks be presented the Rev'd John Ward for his approved Sermon before the Convention this Day, also to the Rev'd Mr. Crocker, for his Service in reading Prayers.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd N. B. Crocker be Chosen to prepare a Discourse to deliver at the next Annual Convention, to Convene at Newport, June, 1809.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd A. V. Griswold be prepared in case of failure of the Rev'd Mr. Crocker, to perform that Duty.

*Voted*, That the next annual Convention be held at Newport, on the first Wednesday June, 1809.

*Voted unanimously*, That this Convention consent and approve of the Amendment proposed by the House of Clerical and Lay Delegates of the Gen'l Convention, and that the Representatives be authorised to support the same.

*Voted*, That Wm. Hunter be added to the former Committee who were appointed to ascertain what Land there was given for the use of the Episcopal Church in the Town of Warren.

This Convention be adjourned *sine die*.

JER'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

1809.

*Newport, Wednesday June 7, 1809.*

At an Annual Convention held this day at Trinity Church, Newport, duly Notified.

Newport represented by

The Rev'd Theodore Dehon, Rector Trinity Church,  
Rev'd John Ward, Assistant Minister to same.

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Francis Brinley,    | } <i>Lay Delegates.</i> |
| John Bourse,        |                         |
| Robert N. Auchmuty, |                         |
| Benja. Gardner,     |                         |
| William Crooke,     |                         |
| Simeon Martin,      |                         |
| Samuel Whitehorn,   | }                       |

Providence represented by

Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker, Rector St. John's Church.  
Jere'h F. Jenkins, *Lay Delegate*.

Bristol represented by

Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, Rector St. Michael's Church.  
William Pierce, *Lay Delegate*.

Wickford, St. Paul's Church,—No Representation.

Authoritative testimonials from the Representatives were produced and approved.

The Rev'd Theodore Dehon presided President.

Jeremiah F. Jenkins, Secretary.

*Voted* That the Standing Committee shall consist of the Rev'ds Theodore Dehon, Alexander V. Griswold, Nathan B. Crocker, John Ward, Messrs. John Bourse, Newport, Jere'h F. Jenkins, Providence, and William Pierce, Bristol.

*Voted.* That the Rev'd Alex'r V. Griswold be prepared to deliver a Discourse at the next annual Convention to meet at Providence

*Voted,* The Rev'd Theodore Dehon be requested to be prepared with a Discourse in case of failure in the Rev'd Mr. Griswold.

*Voted,* That the next annual Convention convene at Providence on the first Wednesday in June, (6th of the Month.)

*Voted,* That the thanks of this Convention be presented the Rev'd Mr. Crocker for his Excellent Sermon delivered before them this Day, and the same be presented the Rev'd Mr. Griswold for Service in reading Prayers.

A letter was then read from the Convention of Massachusetts on the subject of the Election of a Bishop to preside over the States of Massachusetts, New Hampshire & Rhode Island. After some debate—resolved that the further consideration of this business be postponed to a future Convention, & that a Committee be appointed to correspond.

*Voted & Resolved,* That a Committee be appointed to address the Wardens & Vestry of St. Paul's Church in North Kingston, & inquire of them whether there exists any cause or causes of their disunion with us, which this Convention can alleviate, and to assure the said Wardens & Vestry of the Interest which the Convention feel for the welfare of St. Paul's Church & of their earnest desire that the said Church should be represented in our future Conventions.

*Voted,* That the Clergy of the Churches in Newport, Providence & Bristol be the Committee for the above purpose, & that they be required also to inform the Wardens & Vestry of St. Paul's Church of the communication received from the Convention in Massachusetts, and that said Committee be requested to ascertain the views of the Massachusetts Convention, and Intentions

with respect to their proposed union,—and that they be authorised to appoint the time for calling the Convention together, and receive their report.

*Voted*, That this Convention be adjourned *sine die*.

JERE'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

1809.

*Wickford, North Kingston, Narragansett, }  
Wednesday, August 23, 1809. }*

At a regular adjourned Convention, at St. Paul's Church, for Special business.

Newport represented by

The Rev'd Theodore Dehon, Rector Trinity Church.

Rev'd John Ward assistant Minister.

Benjamin Gardner, }  
Robert N. Auchmuty. } *Lay Delegates.*  
Simeon Martin, }

Providence by

Rev'd Nathan Bourn Crocker, Rector St. John's Church.

Jere'h F. Jenkins, *Lay Delegate*.

Bristol by

Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, Rector St. Michael's Church.

William Pierce, }  
John W. Russell, } *Lay Delegates.*  
Allen Bourn, }

North Kingston, St. Paul's Church, Represented by

Jeremiah Brown, }  
Dan'l Updike, }  
Nathan'l Munday, } *Lay Delegates.*  
Samuel Gardner, }  
Lodowick Updike, }  
Sylvester Gardner, }

N. B. Who did not take their Seats until the afternoon.



Authoritative testimonials from the Representatives were produced and approved.

The Rev'd Theodore Dehon Chosen and Presided President.

After the performing Divine Service, the Convention was opened by the Secretary, there being no Rector of St. Michael's Church.

The Rev'd Theodore Dehon was then Chosen President, and proceeded to business.

At the particular request of Daniel Updike, one of the Wardens of St. Paul's Church, and others of the Congregation, the Convention consented to adjourn untill half-past 2 o'clock, to afford them the opportunity to appoint their Delegates to represent in this Convention, St. Paul's Church.

Adjourned accordingly.

The Convention met again in the afternoon.

*Voted*, That the thanks of the Convention be presented the Rev'd Mr. Griswold, for his Excellent Sermon delivered this day before the Convention.

Then appeared, with an approved Testimonial, Daniel Updike, Jeremiah Brown, Nathaniel Munday, Samuel E. Gardner, Lojowick Updike, Sylvester Gardner, as the Representatives for St. Paul's Church, and they took their seats accordingly.

The Report of the Committee was then read, viz :

The Committee to whom was referred at the last Convention, the letter from the Church in Massachusetts inviting the Churches in this State to unite with them in the choice of a Bishop, beg leave to report that they are unanimously of opinion,—

First,—That it is expedient and very desirable that the Church in this State should have the superintending care and official service of a Bishop.

Secondly,—That the proposal from the Church in Massachusetts, opens the best prospect of obtaining these benefits in the most satisfactory manner, and as far as the Committee have been able to investigate the subject, appears to have arisen from an impartial and disinterested respect to the general good of the Church.

The Committee do therefore recommend that this Convention should accede to the proposal of the Convention of Massachusetts, and that the Churches in this State be severally requested to appoint Delegates to represent them in the united Convention whenever it shall be held.

All which is respectfully submitted by

Y'r obd't Serv'ts,

Signed, ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD, }  
THEODORE DEHON, } Committee.  
NATHAN B. CROCKER, }

*Voted*, That the report of the Committee be received and adopted.

*Voted*, That the Reverends Mr. Griswold, Dehon and Crocker be a Committee to write to the Convention in Massachusetts, signifying our acceptance and compliance with their proposal with regard to the election of a Bishop.

Wrote second March.

*Voted*, That this Convention be adjourned without day.

JER'H F. JENKINS, *Secretary*.

1810.

*Providence, State Rhode Island, }  
Wednesday, June 6, 1810. }*

At an Annual Protestant Episcopal Convention held this first Wednesday in June, at the Town House, by reason of the re-building of St. John's Church,

The Churches of Newport, Providence and Bristol, in Representation, viz :

Newport Represented by

Rev'd John Ward, Trinity Church.

Benjamin Gardner, *Lay Delegate.*

Providence,

Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker, St. John's Church.

|                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Thomas L. Halsey,    | } <i>Lay Delegates.</i> |
| Jeremiah F. Jenkins, |                         |
| Eph'm Bowen, Jr.,    |                         |
| John Mumford,        |                         |
| Jno. Carlile.        | }                       |

Bristol, St. Michael's Church,

Rev'd Alex'r V. Griswold, Rector,

|                  |                         |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| William Pierce,  | } <i>Lay Delegates.</i> |
| John W. Russell, |                         |

North Kingston, St. Paul's Church, no Representation

After authoritative Testimonials from the different Representations were receiv'd and approv'd, proceeded to Business, after attending Divine Service respectively performed.

The Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker presiding President,  
Jeremiah F. Jenkins Secretary.

*Voted*, That the Standing Committee shall consist of the Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker, and Benjamin Gardner of Newport.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker, Benjamin Gardner, and Sam'l Whitehorn of Newport, Thomas L. Halsey of Providence, and Jonathan W. Russell, of Bristol, be Delegates to represent the Churches of this State at the General Convention, to be holden in Connecticut, at New Haven, on the third Tuesday in May, it being the 21st, 1811.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Alex'r V. Griswold, Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker, Ephraim Bowen, Jr., Thomas L. Halsey, Benja.' Gardner, John W. Russell, Daniel Updike, of North Kingston, be the Delegates to represent the Churches of this State at the Epis-

copal Eastern Diocese of the United States Convention, to be convened at Boston, the last Wednesday of September next, it being on the 26th day of the Month, 1810.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented the Rev'd John Ward, for his approv'd Discourse delivered this Day.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. Crocker be requested to prepare a Discourse for the next annual Convention, to be holden at Bristol, and in case of failure, that the Rev'd Mr. Griswold be prepared to Preach.

*Voted*, That the Committee consisting of William Pierce, Chas Collins, Benja. Bosworth (to whom was added William Hunter, Attorney at Law, at a Convention held in May, 1808), who were authorised to ascertain the situation of the Lot of the Episcopal Church Land at Warren, and who were elected or appointed at a previous Convention, that was held at Newport. Nov. 12, 1806, said Committee be requested to procure a Copy of a Will that is appertaining thereto, and hand the same to William Hunter Esq'r, requesting his written opinion on the Subject, and report at the next Convention. that it may be appropriated according to the Intention of the Testator.

*Voted*, That the next annual Convention be held at Bristol.

*Voted*, That this Convention adjourn, *without day*.

JEREMIAH F. JENKINS, *Sec'y*.

## 1811.

*Bristol, State of Rhode Island, }  
The Twenty-fourth Day of April, A. D 1811 }*

At a Special Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, held at St. Michael's Church, Bristol, this 24th day of April, A. D. 1811.



*Present*,—The Rev'd Mr. Griswold, (Bishop elect,) Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

The Rev'd Mr. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

The Rev'd Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

*Lay Representation.*

Newport,—Messrs. Benj'n Gardner, Simeon Martin, and Robert N. Auchmuty.

Providence,—Messrs. John Mumford, John Carlile.

Bristol,—Messrs. Wm. Pierce, Ben'n Bosworth, John W. Russell, and Charles Collins.

North Kingston,—Mr. Daniel Updike.

After Divine Service, the Convention proceeded to business, and from the indisposition of Jeremiah F. Jenkins, their Secretary, R. N. Auchmuty was chosen Sec. pro tem.

Authoritative Testimonials of Representation were then presented from the Churches of Providence, Bristol and North Kingston; the members of Newport not being furnished with a Testimonial, were, on the representation of the Rev. Rector, that he was present at the time of their being chosen, allowed to take their seats.

*Voted*, That Jeremiah F. Jenkins be continued Secretary of this State Convention, and Mr. Jeremiah Lippitt, be appointed Assistant Secretary.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. Griswold, the Rev'd Mr. Crocker, the Rev'd Mr. Wheaton, Rob't N. Auchmuty, and Daniel Updike, be the Standing Committee of this State.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. G. Rev'd Mr. C. Rev'd Mr. W. together with Messrs. Ben'n Gardner, Tho's L. Halsey, Dan'l Updike, and Cap'n Russell, be Delegates to represent this State in General Convention.

*Voted*, That Mr. Simeon Martin be added to the Committee now existing, to ascertain the situation of a Lot of Land said to be

bequeathed to the Church in Warren, and they are requested to report at the next meeting.

*Voted*, That Messrs. John Carlile and Jeremiah Lippitt, be a Committee to ascertain the situation of the Church lands in Warwick.

*Voted*, That Messrs. Ben'n Gardner and Daniel Updike, be a Committee to ascertain the situation of the land in Charlestown, Narragansett, now in the possession of Mr. Champlin.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of this Convention be given to the Rev'd Mr. Crocker, for his excellent Discourse this day delivered, and to the Rev'd Mr. Wheaton for performing the Service.

*Voted*, That accounts be furnished the Secr'y, from each Church in this State, of the annual number of Christenings, Marriages, Funerals, and number of Communicants.

*Voted*, That the Rev'd Mr. Griswold, be requested to preach to the next Convention, to be holden at Newport.

Adjourned *sine die*.

ROB'T N. AUCHMUTY, *Sec'ry pro tem*.

The above and foregoing is a true Copy of the Proceedings of the Convention, holden at Bristol, April 4, 1811, recorded from the minutes signed by the said R. N. Auchmuty, by

JERE. LIPPITT, *Assistant Sec'ry*.

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1812.

*Newport, State of Rhode Island, &c.*

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, held at Trinity Church, Newport, on Wednesday the Third day of June, A. D. 1812.

*Present*,—The Right Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, Bishop  
of the Eastern Diocese, and Rector  
of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

The Rev'd Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity  
Church, Newport.

The Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's  
Church, Providence.

*Lay Delegates.*

Simeon Martin, Robert N. Auchmuty, Ben'n Gardner, Stephen  
T. Northam and Sam'l Whitehorn, Newport.

John Mumford and Nathaniel Searle, Providence.

William Pierce and John W. Russell, Bristol.

Jeremiah Brown, George Brown, and Tho. R. Gardner, South  
Kingston, Narragansett.

The Rev'd Mr. Montague, being present he was unani-  
mously admitted an honorary member, with the privilege  
of debating and voting.

The Secretary and Assistant Secretary being absent,  
Robert N. Auchmuty was chosen Secretary *pro tem*.

The following Gentlemen were chosen the Standing  
Committee of this State.—The Right Rev'd Bishop  
*ex-officio*, The Rev'd Mr. Crocker, The Rev'd Mr.  
Wheaton, Mr. R. N. Auchmuty, Mr. Jeremiah Brown.

The Right Rev'd A. V. Griswold, Rev'd Mr. Crocker,  
the Rev'd Mr. Wheaton, Mr. Benj'n Gardner, Mr. T. L.  
Halsey, Mr. J. W. Russell and Mr. Tho's R. Gardner,  
were chosen delegates to represent this State in Gen.  
Convention.

The Rev'd Mr. Crocker, the Rev'd Mr. Wheaton, Mr.  
B. Gardner, Mr. N. Searle, Mr. J. W. Russell, and Mr.  
T. R. Gardner, were chosen Members of the Diocesan  
Convention.

Mr. J. F. Jenkins was chosen Sec'y, and Mr. J. Lip-  
pitt, Assistant Secretary of the Diocese.

*Voted*, That the Committee appointed by the two preceeding Conventions to ascertain the Situation of the Land bequeathed the Church at Warren, be continued, and they are hereby requested to report their proceedings as soon as convenient.

The Report of Mr. Lippitt respecting the Church Lands at Warwick, was received and ordered to be filed.

*Voted*, That Mr. Ben'n Gardner and Mr. Francis Brinley, be a Committee to wait on Christopher G. Champlin, Esq'r, and obtain from him a conveyance of the Land in Charlestown, (of which he is now a Trustee) to the Trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese.

A Report being received from the Rectors of the different Churches, of Christenings, Marriages, Funerals and number of Communicants, the same was ordered to be filed with the papers of this Convention.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of this Convention be given to the Rt. Rev'd Bishop, for his very excellent discourse this day delivered.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of this Convention be given to R. N. Auchmuty, for his services this day delivered.

Adjourned *sine die*.

ROBERT N. AUCHMUTY, *Sec'ry pro tem*.

The above and foregoing are true Copies from the minutes signed as above, and are recorded by

JERE. LIPPITT, *Assistant Sec'ry*.

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1813.

*South Kingston, Rhode Island.*

At the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church,



holden at the Glebe House of St. Paul's Church, Narragansett, on the Second day of June, A. D. 1813.

*Present*,—The Right Reverend Alexander V. Griswold, D. D.  
Rev'd James Bowers,  
Rev'd Salmon Wheaton,  
Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker.

*Lay Delegates.*

Trinity Church, Newport,—Benjamin Gardner, Esquire.  
St. John's Church, Providence.—Mr. John Mumford.  
St. Michael's Church, Bristol—Mr. William Pierce, Charles  
Collins, Esquire.  
St. Paul's, South Kingston—George Brown, Esqr.

After Prayers, and a Sermon by the Bishop, and the administration of the Sacrament,

*Voted*, That Mr. Jeremiah F. Jenkins be Secretary of the Convention the ensuing year, and Mr. Jeremiah Lippitt his Assistant.

*Voted*, That whereas the fourth Canon of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States provides that in every State or Diocese, there shall be a Standing Committee, the Sixth Article of our State Constitution be repealed.

*Voted*, That the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rev. Mr. Crocker and Captain Collins be the Standing Committee of this State.

The following Gentlemen are elected Delegates to represent the Churches in this State in General Convention, viz :

The Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. James Bowers, Messrs. Benjamin Gardner, of Newport, John Mumford, of Providence, J. W. Russell, of Bristol, and Thomas R. Gardner, of South Kingston.

*Voted*, That the report of the Committee appointed to wait on Christopher G. Champlin, Esqr., and obtain from him a conveyance of the land in Charlestown, (of which he was supposed to be Trustee,) to the Trustees of Donations to the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese, be received and filed.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of the Convention be presented to the Right Rev'd Dr. Griswold, for his excellent Sermon delivered before them this day.

*Voted*, That the Clergyman of St. Paul's Church be requested to preach once in Three months, to the people of Charlestown, in the Narragansett County.

The following Statement of Marriages, Deaths, Baptisms, and number of Communicants, was made by the Rectors of the Several Churches, viz :

ST. MICHAEL'S, CHURCH.—Rt. Rev. Dr. Griswold, Rector.—Marriages, 3 ; Deaths, 8 ; Baptized, (adults, 50 ; children, 56 ;) 106 ; Communicants,—added, 102 ;—Total, 148. Number of families, about 90.

TRINITY CHURCH.—Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector. Baptisms, 16 ; Marriages, 3 ; Funerals, 4 ; Communicants, 105.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.—Nathan B. Crocker, Rector. Baptized, (adults, 8 ; infants, 7 ;) 15 ; Marriages, 8 ; admitted to the Communion, 10 ; Buried, 7 ;—Total number of Communicants, 59.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of the Convention be given the Secretary, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker.

A True Copy from minutes, signed by

N. B. CROCKER, *Sec'ry pro tem.*

Attest,—JERE LIPPITT, *Asst. Sec'ry.*

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1814.

At a Special Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, holden according to notice, at St. John's Church, Providence, on the 27th day of April, A. D. 1814.

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*Present*,—The Right Rev'd Dr. Griswold, Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, President.

The Churches of Newport, Providence, Bristol, and North Kingston in Representation, viz :

The Right Rev. Dr. Griswold, from St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton, from Trinity Church, Newport.

The Rev. Mr. Crocker, from St. John's, Providence.

The Rev. Mr. Bowers, from St. Paul's Church, N. Kingston.

*Lay Delegates.*

Messrs. Benjamin Gardner, and William C. Gardner, from Trinity Church.

Thomas L. Halsey, John Mumford, and Nathaniel Searle, jun, from St. John's Church.

John Howe, Samuel Smith, 2nd, and Lemuel Richmond, from St. Michael's Church.

Thomas R. Gardner, from St. Paul's Church.

After Prayers by the Rev. Mr. Crocker, and sermon by Rev. Mr. Wheaton, and the administration of the Communion, the Convention proceeded to business.

*Voted*, That Jeremiah F. Jenkins be, and he is hereby appointed Secretary, and Jeremiah Lippitt be and he hereby is appointed Assistant Secretary, of this Convention for the year ensuing.

*Voted*, That the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rev. Mr. Crocker, and Charles Collins, Esq., be, and they are hereby appointed the Standing Committee for the year ensuing.

*Voted*, That the Rev. Mr. S. Wheaton, and the Rev. N. B. Crocker be Clerical Delegates, and that Benjamin Gardner, Esq., Ephraim Bowen, Esq., and Mr. Abel Jones, and Mr. John Whitehorn, be, and they hereby are appointed Lay Delegates to represent the Churches in this State, in the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, for the year ensuing.

*Voted*, That Rev. N. B. Crocker, S. Wheaton, and J. Bowers be clerical, and N. Searle, jun., Benjamin Gardner, Charles Gardner, and T. R. Gardner, Esq's, be lay Delegates to represent the Churches in this State to the Diocesan Convention, to be holden this year.

*Voted*, That the Rt. Rev. Dr. Griswold, Rev. Mr. Wheaton, and Rev. Mr. Crocker, together with N. Searle, jun. Esq'r, be a Committee to revise the Constitution of the Church of this State, and report at the next Convention.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, for his services this day rendered.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rt. Rev. Dr. Griswold, for his services as President of this Convention.

The following Statement of Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths, and number of Communicants in the Several Churches, was made by the Rectors of the several Churches under their hands, viz :

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.—Right Rev. Dr. Griswold, Rector.—Baptisms, (adults, 5, infants, 7;) 12; Marriages, 5; Communicants, (new) 7; Deaths, 10.

TRINITY CHURCH.—Rev. S. Wheaton, Rector. Baptisms, (adults 3; infants, 13;) 16; Funerals, 6; Communicants, 107.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.—Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rector. Baptisms, (adults, 7; children, 24;) 31; Marriages, 4; Burials, 9; Admitted to the Communion, 9; Whole number of Communicants, 78.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.—Rev. J. Bowers, Rector. Marriages, 1; Burials, 1; Baptisms—

Adjourned *sine die*.

*Witness.*

JERE. LIPPITT, *Asst. Sec'ry.*

## 1815

At a Special Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, convened by order of the Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D., and



according to Notice, in St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Wednesday, May 10, 1815.

The churches of Newport, Providence, Bristol and Narragansett in Representation,

The Right Rev. Dr. Griswold, Rector of St. Michael's Ch.

The Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church.

The Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church,

Messrs. Benjamin Gardner, Stephen T. Northam, and William C. Gardner, Lay Delegates from Trinity Church.

Col. John Carlile, Lay Delegate from St. John's Church.

Messrs. Charles Collins, Abel Jones, and Henry D. Wolf, Lay Delegates from St. Michael's Church.

Messrs. Samuel Packard, and Thomas R. Gardner, Lay Delegates from St. Paul's Church, Narragansett.

The Lay Delegates from St. Michael's Church were not furnished with a Certificate from the Vestry Clerk, of their appointment, but on the statement of the Bishop, that he was well assured of their election, they were admitted to a seat.

Convention was opened by Prayers, by the Rev. Mr. Blake, and Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Wheaton ; and after the administration of the Holy Eucharist, the Convention proceeded to business.

The Bishop in the Chair.

Jeremiah Lippitt is appointed Secretary for the year ensuing.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton and Rev. Mr. Crocker and Charles Collins, Esq., are appointed the Standing Committee for the year ensuing.

The Rev. Mr. Blake is admitted to a Seat in the Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rev. Mr. Crocker, are appointed Clerical, and Messrs. Benjamin Gardner, Ephraim

Bowen, and Abel Jones, Lay Delegates, to represent the Churches of this State, in the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, for the year ensuing.

The Rev. Mr. Crocker and Rev. Mr. Wheaton, are appointed Clerical, and Messrs. N. Searle, Benjamin Gardner, Charles Gardner, and Thomas R. Gardner, Lay Delegates to represent the Churches of this State in the Diocesan Convention for the year ensuing.

The Rectors of St. Michael's, Trinity, and St. John's Church, make report of the number of Baptisms, &c. the past year by which it appears that in

St. Michael's Church, there were Baptisms 14; Marriages, 7; Burials, 6; Communicants, 143.

In Trinity Church there were Baptisms, 18; Marriages, 4; Funerals, 14; Admitted to Communion, 9.

In St. John's Church there were Marriages, 7; Baptisms, (infants, 23; adults, 5;) 28; Admitted to Communion, 7; have been confirmed, 14; Burials, (adults, 5; infants, 5;) 10.

The Committee appointed to revise the Constitution submit the following :—

Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Rhode Island.

ARTICLE 1.—There shall be a Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State on the First Tuesday in June, in each year, in such place as shall be determined by the Bishop for the time being.

ART. 2.—The Bishop shall have power to call Special Conventions when he may judge it conducive to the good of the Church, or when applied to for that purpose by the Standing Committee; and in case there should be no Bishop resident in the State, the Standing Committee shall have power to call Special Conventions, and also to determine the place at which the annual Conventions shall be holden.

ART. 3.—The Convention shall be composed of the officiating Ministers, settled in the Churches of this State, and of Lay members, consisting of one or more Delegates from each Church, to be chosen by the Vestry or Congregation.

ART. 4.—Every Convention shall be opened with prayers and a sermon; and the Preacher shall be nominated by the Bishop. In case of a vacancy in the Episcopal Chair, the Preacher shall be appointed by the Convention.

ART. 5.—The Bishop shall preside in the Convention, but when absent, the Rector of the Church where the Convention is holden, shall be President.

ART. 6.—A Secretary shall be chosen upon the assembling of the annual Convention from among the members thereof, who shall remain in office until the meeting of the next Convention.—His duty shall be to take minutes of their proceedings, to preserve their journals and records, to attest the public acts of the Body, and faithfully to deliver into the hands of his successor, all Books and Papers relative to the Concerns of the Convention which may be in his possession. It shall also be his duty to give notice to each Minister and Vestry, of the time and place appointed for the meeting of the succeeding Convention.

ART. 7.—In all matters which shall come before the Convention, the Clergy and Laity shall deliberate in one Body, and in voting, the Clergy shall vote by Individuals, and the Laity by Congregations, and a majority of the votes of the two Orders jointly shall be decisive. But, if in any Case, it be required by two votes, the two Orders shall vote separately, and the concurrence of a majority of each Order, shall be necessary to constitute a decision.

ART. 8.—The mode of altering this Constitution shall be as follows:—A proposition for amendment shall be introduced in writing, and considered in the Convention, and if approved of, shall lie over to the next Convention; and if again approved of in the next ensuing Convention by a majority of the two Orders voting thereon separately, the change shall take place, and the Constitution so altered shall be valid and obligatory.

The following were reported as Canons of the Church.

1st. Every trial of a Clergyman in this Church for misbehavior shall be on presentment made to the Bishop, by the Convention,

by the Vestry of the Parish to which the Clergyman belongs, or by two or more Presbyters of the Church. In every presentment the charge or charges, shall be distinctly specified.

2d. For every trial of a Clergyman, the Bishop shall nominate five Presbyters, out of whom the person accused may choose three; or, if he neglect or refuse to do this, the Bishop shall appoint three who shall constitute a Board for trying the accused person. The Bishop shall appoint the time and place of Trial, of both of which, at least a month's notice shall be given to the accused party; and should he neglect or refuse to attend, the Trial shall proceed. The Board thus constituted shall examine fully the charge or charges alleged; and keep a minute and accurate Record of the testimony of Witnesses, and of every question and proceeding that comes before them. No charge shall be substantiated on a testimony of less than two Witnesses. On the examination of any Witness, should the accused party require it, an oath or affirmation shall be administered by a Magistrate. A majority of the Board shall make a decision. The Board having come to a Decision on the charge or charges respectively, shall communicate this decision to the Bishop; and also in case they have found the accused Party guilty, the sentence which, in their opinion, should be pronounced. A certified copy of the Record of their Proceedings shall be laid before the Bishop, and his judgment in the case be final.

The foregoing is submitted by

ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD,  
N. B. CROCKER,  
SALMON WHEATON.

*Voted*, That the foregoing, as reported, be and they are hereby established as Canons of this Church.

*Voted*, That the above Constitution, as reported, be approved of by this Convention as the Constitution of the Church in this State.

*Voted*, That the Sec'y transmit to each of the Churches a copy of the Constitution as reported by the Committee, and approved by this Convention. And it shall be the duty of the Clerk of each Congregation to report to the next Convention the sense of each Congregation thereof.



*Voted*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Wheaton for his excellent Discourse, and to Rev. Mr. Blake for his services.

Adjourned.

JERE. LIPPITT, *Sec'ry*.

## 1816.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, convened in Trinity Church, Newport, on the fifth day of June, A. D. 1816.

*Present*,—Rt Rev'd Alex'r V. Griswold, D. D.

Rev'd Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church,  
Newport.

Rev'd Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's  
Church, Providence.

Rev. John L. Blake, Rector of St. Paul's  
Church, Pawtucket.

### *Lay Delegates.*

Trinity Church,—Samuel Whitehorn, Stephen T. Northam, &  
Simeon Martin.

St. John's Church,—Thomas Lloyd Halsey, Alexander Jones,  
& Jeremiah Lippitt.

St. Michael's Church,—William Pierce, Charles Collins, &  
Henry D. Wolfe.

St. Paul's, Narragansett,—Thomas R. Gardner, and Samuel  
Packard.

The Rectors of the several Churches made Reports, of which the following are abstracts, viz :

ST. MICHAEL'S.—Marriages 7 ; Baptisms 44 ; Deaths 6 ; Communicants, (including about 20 who at present do not reside at Bristol,) 160. The Parish is well united and in a flourishing state.

TRINITY CHURCH,—Baptisms (infants 12, adults, 4,) 16;—Marriages 4; Funerals 20, of whom 7 were communicants; Communicants now, 112.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.—Baptisms (infants 17, adults 34,) 51; admitted to Communion, 46; Marriages 7; Burials 8; Communicants 130.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, Pawtucket.—Baptisms 11; Marriages 4; Funerals 13; Communicants 20.

The Convention was opened by Prayers by Rev. Mr. Blake and a Sermon by Rev. Mr. Crocker.

The Convention, on proceeding to business, made the following appointments, to wit:—Jeremiah Lippitt Secretary.

Rev. S. Wheaton, Rev. N. B. Crocker, and Charles Collins, Esqr. Standing Committee.

Rev. S. Wheaton, Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rev. J. L. Blake, are appointed Clerical, and Benjamin Gardner, Thomas L. Halsey, Samuel Packard and Henry D. Wolfe, Lay Delegates to the General Convention for the year ensuing.

Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rev. S. Wheaton, Rev. J. L. Blake, are appointed Clerical and Benjamin Gardner, Charles Gardner, Thomas R. Gardner, and Alexander Jones, Lay Delegates to the Diocesan Convention for the year ensuing.

Reports from Trinity Church and St. John's Church, are read respecting the Constitution of the Church submitted by order of last Convention and proposing certain amendments.

Verbal reports were made from St. Michael's, St. Paul's, Nar., and St. Paul's Pau., that the Constitution as reported at the last Convention was by them approved.

*Voted*, That the Constitution reported at the last Convention be amended in the 3d Article, with the words "not exceeding four" being added after the word "Delegates" which is agreeable to the recommendation of Trinity and St. John's Church.

*Voted*, That the same be amended in the 7th Article by inserting the words "as aforesaid" after the word "separately", and substituting the words "two members" for the words "two votes", agreeable to the vote of Trinity Church.

*Voted*, That the same be amended in the 8th Article by omitting the words "next ensuing Convention" and substituting the words "in that Convention", agreeable to the vote of St. John's Church.

*Voted*, That the said Constitution, as reported, be, and the same is, hereby adopted with the amendments aforesaid as the Constitution of the Church in this State. *Voted unanimously*.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of the Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Blake for his services, and to the Rev. Mr. Crocker for his appropriate Discourse this day delivered.

*Voted*, That the Thanks of the Convention be presented to the Bishop for his services as President, and also to the Sec'y for his services.

The Bishop having retired, the Rev. Mr. Wheaton takes the chair, and it being represented by the Delegates from St. Michael's Church that a desire has been expressed by individuals in Massachusetts for the Bishop's removal from this State, and the said Delegates wishing an expression of the sense of this Convention on the subject,

*Voted, unanimously*, That this Convention do sincerely desire that the Bishop should continue his residence in this State.

*Voted*, That the Sec'y communicate to the Bishop the foregoing Vote.

Adjourned, *sine die*.

Witness,

JERE. LIPPITT, *Sec'y*

## 1817.

At a special Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, holden at St. Paul's Church, Wickford, by order of the Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D., Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, and pursuant to notice.

*Present*, The Bishop in the Chair.

The Churches of Newport, Providence, Bristol, Narragansett and Pawtucket in Representation.

After Prayers by the Rev. Mr. Crocker and Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Blake, the Rev. George S. White and Rev. Joseph R. Andrews, Deacons, were admitted by the Bishop to the Holy Order of Priests, when the Holy Communion being administered, the Convention proceeded to business.

The following Clerical Delegates appearing, took their seats, viz :

The Bishop, President, *ex officio*.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

Rev. John L. Blake, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket.

The following Lay Delegates appearing and presenting Testimonials of their appointment, took their seats, viz :

Messrs Benjamin Gardner, Stephen T. Northam, Benjamin B. Mumford from Trinity Church, Newport.

Messrs. John Carlile, Alex'r Jones, Abner Daggett, Jeremiah Lippitt, from St. John's Church, Providence.

Messrs. Samuel Packard, Thomas R. Gardner, from St. Paul's Church, Narragansett.

Samuel Greene, from St Paul's Church, Pawtucket.

Messrs. John Howe, Lemuel Richmond, Samuel Smith, and Glover Harding, Lay Delegates from St. Michael's Church, Bristol, not being furnished with a Certificate of their appointment, were



admitted to their Seats on the verbal representation of the Secretary of the Corporation of said Church, that they were duly elected.

Jeremiah Lippitt is elected Secretary of this Convention for the year ensuing.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker and Rev. John L. Blake are elected the Standing Committee for the year ensuing.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker and Rev. John L. Blake are appointed Clerical, and Hon. Benjamin Gardner, Col. Thomas Lloyd Halsey, and Alexander Jones and Stephen T. Northam, Esqrs, are appointed Lay Delegates to the General Convention for the year ensuing.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Salmon Wheaton and Rev. John L. Blake are appointed Clerical, and Benjamin Gardner, John Howe, Thomas R. Gardner and Alexander Jones, Esqrs, are appointed Lay Delegates to the Diocesan Convention for the year ensuing.

*Resolved*, As the sense of this Convention, that it is expedient that a General Theological Seminary, under the Superintendence and guidance of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

*Resolved*, That the Bishop, together with the Standing Committee, be appointed to make a report of the state of the Church in this State, to the next General Convention.

The Rectors of the several Churches, excepting Trinity Church, make Reports, of which the following are abstracts, viz :

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.—Marriages, 4 ; Baptisms 44 ; Communicants added 9 ; Deaths (communicants 2, parishioners 5) 7. The Parish, through the divine blessing, is in a flourishing state.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.—Marriages 2; Baptisms (adults 8, infants 10) 18; admitted to communion 10; Confirmed 67;—Deaths 5.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, Pawtucket. — Marriages —; Baptisms —; Deaths —.

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### 1818.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode-Island, holden at St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket, on the first Tuesday in June, A. D. 1818, Prayers being read by the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, a Sermon was delivered by the Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D., Rector of St. Michael's Church, and Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, after which the Communion was administered, when the Convention proceeded to business, and the following Clergy appearing, took their seats, viz :

The Bishop, President *ex-officio*.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church.

Rev John L. Blake, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Paw.

The following Lay Delegates, appearing and producing Testimonials of their appointment, took their Seats, viz :

From Trinity Church, Samuel Whitehorn, Stephen T. Northam, and Benja. B. Mumford.

From St. John's Church, Th. L. Halsey, Alexander Jones, Abner Daggett, and Jere'h Lippitt.

From St. Michael's Church, John G. Harding, Henry D. Wolf, and Lemuel C. Richmond.

From St. Paul's Church, (Paw.) Eliphalet Slack, and David Wilkinson.

From Christ's Church, (Chepatchet,) Thomas Owen, Jun., and Anan Evans.

From St. Paul's Church, (Nar.) There were no Testimonials or Delegates.

The Convention then proceeded to Election, and chose Jeremiah Lippitt, Sec'ry.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker and Rev. John L. Blake, Standing Committee.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker and Rev. John L. Blake Clerical, and Hon. Benj'a Gardner, Col. Th. L. Halsey, Alex'r Jones, and Stephen T. Northam, Esq'rs, Lay Delegates to the General Convention for the ensuing year.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. John L. Blake, Clerical, and Hon. Benj'a. Gardner, Alexander Jones, David Wilkinson, and Henry D. Wolf, Esq'rs, Lay Delegates to the Diocesan Convention, for the ensuing year.

Stephen T. Northam, John D. Wolf, jun'r, and Abner Daggett, Esq'rs, are appointed Lay Delegates to said Convention, in case of the inability of any of the other named Lay Delegates to attend the same.

Previous to proceeding to Election, it was

*Resolved*, That the Rev. George S. White, residing at the Church in Brooklyn, Conn., and the Rev. George Taft, Deacon, residing at Brown University and officiating occasionally at Christ-Church, Chepatchet be admitted to honorary Seats in the Convention. They accordingly were present.

*Also Resolved*, That the several Candidates for the Ministry be admitted to honorary Seats in the Convention. Whereupon Mr. Lemuel Birge and Mr. Edward R. Lippitt, Candidates, take their seats.

*Also Resolved*, That Capt. Evan Malbone from the Church at Brooklyn, Con. be admitted to an honorary seat in this Convention, who also appears and takes his seat.

*Resolved*, That the Standing Committee shall, at each Convention, make a Report of the state of the Church in this State.

*Resolved*, That this Convention do hereby request the Bishop to appoint a Missionary to officiate in this State, and that this Convention will engage to furnish to such Missionary, such sum for his services as the Bishop shall name.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Clergy of the different Churches in this State, to preach on the subject of the Missionary Society of this State, and have a Contribution made in their Congregations, on the Second Sunday of the present month, if the weather is fair, if not, on the first pleasant Sunday after; and that in the week following, they visit their people and solicit subscriptions for the Society.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the different Churches of our Communion in this State, to form Sunday Charity Schools for instruction in reading the Scriptures, and in the principles and doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Ministers, Wardens and members of the said Churches, to render every possible facility and encouragement to said Schools; and that it be recommended to young men and young women of piety and sufficient learning, to volunteer their Services as Instructors in said Schools.

*Resolved*, That an uniform mode of instruction be adopted in said Schools; and that a Committee be appointed to select, under the direction of the Bishop, a Catechism illustrative of the Church Catechism, and also an office of Devotion therewith, as may be deemed suitable to be used in said Schools.

*Resolved*, That reports of said Schools be made annually to the Convention, with the reports made by the Rectors of the state of the several Churches.

*Resolved*, That Rev. Mr. Crocker, Rev. Mr. Blake and Rev. Mr. Wheaton be the Committee to select a Catechism and office of Devotion, pursuant to the Resolution above recited.



The Rectors of the several Churches make their Reports, of which an abstract follows, viz :

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.—Baptisms, (adults 2, children 17,) 19; Marriages 2; Deaths 11; Communicants 162, (including 20 who do not at present reside in Bristol.) The congregation appears not to be diminished, tho' several families which belonged to it have removed from the Town.

TRINITY CHURCH. — Baptisms, (adults 9, children 21) 30;—Marriages 2; Funerals 15; Communicants (added 12) 125.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.—Baptisms, (adults 6, children 7) 13;—Marriages 4; Funerals 5; added to communion 7.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, (Paw.)—Baptisms 30; Marriages 2; Funerals 5; Communicants (added 10) 46.

From St. Paul's Church, Nar. and Christ's Church, Che't, there were no Returns, there being no Rectors of said Churches.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. John L. Blake be a Committee to prepare an abstract of the Reports of the several Rectors, and of such proceedings of the Convention as shall be deemed expedient, and cause the same to be published in the Christian Journal, or otherwise.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Bishop for his appropriate Sermon, this day delivered, and for his services as President of this Convention.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to Rev. Mr. Wheaton for his Services.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Secretary for his services.

Convention adjourned *sine die*.

Witness,

JERE. LIPPITT, *Sec'y*.

## 1819.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, holden at St. John's Church, pursuant to directions of the Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, Providence, June 1st, A. D. 1819.

Divine Service was celebrated, the prayers being offered by the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, and the Right Rev. Dr. Griswold delivered an appropriate Discourse, when, after the administration of the Holy Eucharist, the Convention proceeded to business.

*Present*,—The Right Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, D. D. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, and President *ex officio*.

The following Clergy appeared and took their seats, viz :

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

Rev. John L. Blake, Rector of St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.

The following named Lay Delegates, producing the requisite Testimonials, appeared and took their seats, viz :

From Trinity Church, Newport, Dr. John P. Mann, Samuel Whitehorn, Stephen T. Northam, Esq's.

From St. John's Church, Providence, Col. Thomas L. Halsey, Col. Alex'r Jones, Abner Daggett, Jere'h Lippitt, Esq's.

From St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Charles Collins, William Pierce, John Howe, Lemuel C. Richmond, Esq's.

From St. Paul's Church, N. Providence, Dr. Niles Manchester, Eben'r Tiffany, Esq., Appollas Cushman, Esq'r, Mr. John B. Braid.

From Christ's Church, Gloucester, Thomas Owen, Esq'r, Dr. Joseph Bowen.

From St. Paul's Church, N. & South Kingston,—none.

The Convention proceeded to election, and the following named Gentlemen were chosen to the offices set against their names, viz :

Jeremiah Lippitt, Esq., Secretary.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, and Rev. John L. Blake, Standing Committee.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker and Rev. John L. Blake, Clerical, Hon. Benjamin Gardner, Col. Th. L. Halsey, Col. Alex. Jones and Stephen T. Northam Esq., Lay Delegates to the General Convention.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Salmon Wheaton and Rev. John L. Blake, Clerical, Hon. Benjamin Gardner, Col. Alex'r. Jones, Mr. David Wilkinson and Henry D. Wolfe, Esq., Lay Delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

Stephen T. Northam, Abner Daggett and John D. Wolfe, jun. Esq., are appointed Lay Delegates to attend said Convention, in case of the inability of any of the above named Lay Delegates being unable to attend the same.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. George Taft, Deacon, residing in Providence and occasionally officiating as a Missionary at Gloucester, and the Rev. Mr. Folker, Deacon, officiating at St. Paul's Church, North and South Kingston as a Missionary, be admitted to honorary Seats in this Convention. They appear and take their Seats accordingly.

*Resolved*, That all Candidates for the Ministry in this Church residing in this State be admitted to honorary Seats in this Convention. Whereupon Jasper Adams, Tutor in Brown University, and ———— Searle, residing in Bristol, appear and take their Seats.

The Standing Committee, by their chairman, report verbally that no business of importance has been before them the past year, excepting that they have recommended two Candidates for the Holy order of Deacons.

The following is an abstract of the parochial Reports of the Rectors of the several Churches.

Trinity Church, Newport.—Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector.—Baptisms, (adults, 6 ; children 49 ; ) 55 ; Marriages, 3 ; Burials, 8 ; Communicants, (added 12, died 4 ; ) present number 133.—A Sunday School has been established, consisting of a male and female branch wholly confined to the children of the poor. It is flourishing, consisting of about 90. Many have made progress in learning and in principles of Religion.

St. John's Church, Providence.—Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector.—Baptisms, (adults, 9 ; children, 10 ; ) 19 ; Marriages, 4 ; Burials, 7 ; Communicants, (added 9,) present number 157 The Sunday School consists of about one hundred and thirty, and is in a prosperous condition.

St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.—Rev. John L. Blake, Rector.—Marriages, 8 ; Funerals, 13 ; Communicants, (added 15 ; ) present number, 53. The Congregation is increasing and has increased about one-fifth the past year. The Services of the Liturgy united in with seriousness. The number of scholars in the Sunday School is over 100 who have been attentive, and many made unusual improvement. A Female Prayer Book and Tract Society has been for two years formed in this Parish.—Beside tracts, it has distributed about 150 Prayer Books, and aided, with its funds, the Sunday School.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Right Rev. A. V. Griswold, D. D. Rector.—The Bishop reports verbally that there has been the past year about 50 Baptisms ; 4 Marriages. That a Sunday School has been established which is flourishing.

Rev. Mr. Folker officiating as a Missionary at St. Paul's Churches, reports verbally that since he has there officiated, there has been added to the Communion one ; one has died and that the present number of Communicants is six.



*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of this Convention, to report to the Convention of the Church in the Eastern Diocese, an abstract of the parochial Reports of the ministers of the respective Churches in this State, commencing at the present time. And that the Diocesan Convention may be informed of the state of the individual Churches in the Diocese, it is further—

*Resolved*, That the Conventions of the Church in the other States composing the said Diocese be requested to pass a Resolution requiring the abstracts of Reports to be made by the Secretary of their respective Conventions.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of this Convention be directed to furnish the Secretaries of the Conventions in the States aforesaid, with a copy of the above Resolutions, and request them to give information to this Convention of the proceedings of said Conventions thereon.

The Rev. George Taft, Deacon, and officiating as Missionary occasionally in Gloucester, makes report as on file.

*Resolved unanimously*, That this Convention do entertain for the auxiliary New York Bible and Common Prayer Book Society the most affectionate regard, and view with lively gratitude to the Supreme Being, the benevolent exertions of said Society for the more free and extensive dissemination of our excellent Liturgy, by procuring the first set of stereotype plates for the Book of Common Prayer, whereby the price of that valuable formula-ry has been so reduced that the poor can now be provided therewith.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of this Convention communicate to the Corresponding Secretary of that Society the above public expression of our sincere and christian friendship.

The following proposed amendment of the Constitution is offered by the Secr'y.

*Resolved*, That the Third Article of the Constitution be thus amended.—“The Convention shall be composed of the officiating  
“ministers settled in the Churches of this State, and, also of such  
“ministers as are employed as Instructors in any incorporated  
“Seminary of learning in this State, and of Missionaries officia-

“ting within this State ; under the direction of the Ecclesiastical  
“authority of this State and of Lay members, consisting of one or  
“more Delegates not exceeding four from each Church to be chosen  
“by the Vestry or Congregation.” And the Resolution aforesaid,  
being considered, is approved.

The Treasurer of The Church Missionary Society of this State (Col. Jones) makes a Verbal Report of the state of the funds of said Society.

*Resolved*, That this Convention continue to feel a lively interest in the success and prosperity of The Church Missionary Society of this State, and that it be recommended to the Clergy to preach at some suitable time in the course of the year a Discourse on the subject of said Society, and that they have a Contribution in aid of its funds.

*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the Missionary or Missionaries employed under the Ecclesiastical authority of this State to report annually to the Bishop a Statement of their labors during the year, and also a statement of the situation of the Parishes in which they may officiate.

*Resolved*, That the Clergy of the respective Churches and one Layman from each Church be appointed a Committee to solicit subscriptions to the Church Missionary Society of this State.

And the following Laymen are thereupon appointed  
viz :

Trinity Church, Samuel Whitehorn ; St. John's Church, Alexander Jones ; St. Michael's Church, Henry D. Wolfe ; St. Paul's Church, N. and S. K. John J. Watson ; St. Paul's Church, N. P. Dr. Niles Manchester.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Clergy, to make enquiries among the Children attending the Sunday Schools and apply, for such as are destitute of Bibles, to the Bible Society of this State that they may be provided therewith.

*Resolved*, That Rev. Mr. Blake be a Committee to prepare an abstract of the proceedings of this Convention, and have the same published in the Christian Journal.

*Resolved*. That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Right Rev. Dr. Griswold for the Discourse by him delivered this day, and for his services as President of said Convention.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Wheaton for his services this day rendered.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Secr'y for his services the past year, and on this day.

*Resolved*, That this Convention is adjourned to the last Tuesday in April next, then to meet in St. Michael's Church, Bristol, at Ten o'clock. A. M.

Witness,

JERE. LIPPITT, *Sec'ry*.

## 1820.

At the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, holden pursuant to adjournment in St. Michael's Church, in Bristol, on the last Tuesday in April A. D. 1820, being the 25th day of the said month.

The Delegates and others having assembled in said Church at Ten o'clock A. M., Divine Service was celebrated, the Rev. Mr. Wheaton offering Morning Prayers. After which, the Rev. Mr. Crocker delivered a Discourse adapted to the meeting of the Convention, when the Convention was opened, and proceeded to Business.

*Present*.—Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold D. D. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese and Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, and President of the Convention *ex-officio*.

The Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

The Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

The Rev. John L. Blake, Rector of St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.

The following named Gentlemen producing the proper Testimonials, appeared and took their seats as Lay Delegates, viz : Messrs. Edward Brinley and Samuel Whitehorn, Trinity Church, Newport.

Messrs. Thomas Lloyd Halsey, Alexander Jones, Abner Daggett and Jeremiah Lippitt, St. John's Church, Providence.

Messrs. Charles Collins, John G. Harding, William Pearce and Lemuel C. Richmond, St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

Messrs. John B. Braid, John Baldwin and David Wilkinson, St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.

Mr. George B. Rathbone represents,—That at the annual meeting of St. Paul's Church, North Kingston, he was appointed Lay Delegate to this Convention, but that he is not furnished with a Certificate of his appointment. After hearing Mr. Rathbone and the Rev. Mr. Wheaton in relation to the subject,—

*Resolved*, That said Rathbone be admitted to a seat in this Convention, as a Lay Delegate from said Church.

The Right Rev. Dr. Griswold having stated to the Convention his inability to preside by reason of bodily indisposition, and requested that some person may be appointed to the Chair :—The Convention thereupon elected the Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, President *pro tem*. The Bishop then remained in Convention.

*Resolved*, That inasmuch as the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, to be next holden, will interfere with the annual meeting of the Convention in this State, that this Convention will now proceed to the elec-



tion of officers and Delegates for the ensuing year ; and this Convention shall be considered the annual Convention for the present year. Whereupon the following appointments were made.

Jeremiah Lippitt, Secretary.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. John L. Blake, Rev. Jasper Adams, (Professor in Brown University,) Stephen T. Northam, Esq., Col. Thomas L. Halsey and Mr. John B. Braid, Standing Committee.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. John L. Blake, Clerical, Col. Thomas Lloyd Halsey, Col. Alexander Jones, Stephen T. Northam, Esq., Gen'l. George D. Wolf, Lay Delegates to the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States, next to be holden at Philadelphia.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. John L. Blake, Clerical, Samuel Whitehorn, Henry D. Wolf, Thomas Lloyd Halsey, and David Wilkinson Esqr's., Lay Delegates to the Diocesan Convention, for the ensuing year.

*Resolved*, That the following be established as a Standing Rule of this Convention, viz : Whenever any person or persons appointed by this Convention, Clerical or Lay Deputies to the General or Diocesan Convention, shall be unable to attend, he or they shall communicate the same to the Standing Committee ; or, if any person or persons elected Delegates as aforesaid, shall decease before the meeting of the Convention to which he or they shall have been elected, the Standing Committee for the time being, are hereby authorised and empowered to elect a Clerical or Lay Delegate or Delegates in the place of the person or persons who shall be unable to attend, or shall have deceased as aforesaid. And the person or persons so elected shall in all respects be considered as a Delegate or Delegates, from the Church in this State to the Convention to which they may be appointed by the said Standing Committee.

*Resolved unanimously*, That it is inexpedient to adopt the alteration of the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States, as proposed by the Hon. C. F. Mercer, at

the last General Convention, and which is to be found in the 32d page of the printed journal of the doings of that body.

*Resolved unanimously.* That it is inexpedient to adopt the alteration of the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States as proposed at the General Convention, changing the time of the meeting of said Convention.

*Resolved,* That the Secretary furnish each of the Delegates to the General Convention, with a Copy of the foregoing Resolutions.

*Resolved* That the Amendment of the Constitution of the Church in this State, as proposed by the Secretary at the last Convention, be, and the same is, hereby approved and adopted, and the same shall be hereafter a part of the Constitution aforesaid.

*Resolved,* That it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee to meet Quarterly ; they shall keep a Record of their proceedings, and present a Copy or abstract thereof, at each annual meeting of this Convention.

*Resolved,* That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Crocker, for his appropriate Sermon this day delivered ; and that he is hereby requested to furnish a Copy thereof, to be placed on the Files of this Convention.

*Resolved,* That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, for his services in the Desk this day.

*Resolved,* That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Secretary, for his services.

Parochial reports were made by the several Rectors by which it appears, that since the last Convention, there have been in

Trinity Church, Newport, Baptisms, (adults 8 ; infants 20 ; ) 28 ; Funerals 24 ; Marriages 3 ; Added to the Communion 20. Present number of Communicants 150. By verbal Report of the Rector, it appears that the Sunday School in this Parish is flourishing.

St. John's Church, Providence,—The Rector reports continue to present an encouraging appearance to the friends of our Zion, there being an evident increase of the Congregation, and the accessions to her Communion, though not large, are regular. Since

the last Convention, and previous to the present devotional excitement, 9 have been added to the Communion. "A more than common seriousness and solemnity have of late pervaded," says the report, "our religious assemblies," Eight or ten, we believe, have been brought to a saving knowledge of the Truth, but from peculiar considerations, it has been deemed proper to give their experience the test of time. There have been Baptisms, (adults 8 ; infants, 10 ;) 18 ; Marriages 3 ; and Burials 15 ; Whole number of Communicants, 159. The Sunday School having been necessarily suspended in the winter, and other denominations having zealously engaged in the same cause, has decreased in the number of the scholars ; but, says the Report, we still look to it as, under God, a powerful auxiliary to the interest of vital Religion, and the outward growth of the Church.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Baptisms 23 ; Marriages 9 ; Communicants 169 ; Deaths 17. It is expected with Divine permission that there will very soon be an addition of 15 or 20 Baptisms, and 50 or more Communicants.

The Sunday School by verbal Reports from the Right Rev. Bishop, is in a flourishing state.

St. Paul's Church, North Providence.—Communicants since last Convention, 55 ; Baptisms 8 ; Marriages 2 ; Funerals 27 ; Average number of Sunday School scholars, 50.

Mr. Rathbone states that in

St. Paul's Church, N. Kingston, there have been Baptisms, (adults 2, infants 7 ;) 9.

*Resolved*, That a Treasurer be annually appointed by this Convention, whose duty it shall be to receive and account for all monies which may come to his hands. Thereupon Col. Alexander Jones is elected Treasurer.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Church Missionary Society of this State, to transfer their funds to the Treasurer of this Convention. That this Convention will from time to time, attend to the appropriation of said funds, and provide means for furnishing Funds for the cause of missions within this State.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to each of the Clergy of this State, to preach a Sermon previous to the next Convention, on the subject of missions within this State, and cause contributions to be had in their respective Parishes in aid thereof.

*Resolved*, That the minister and one layman of each Parish, be appointed to obtain subscriptions for the cause of missions, in this State, and to pay over all sums received, to the Treasurer of this Convention.

And the following named Laymen were appointed,  
viz :

From Trinity Church, Samuel Whitehorn. St. John's Church,  
Zac'h Allen. St. Michael's, Henry D. Wolf. St. Paul's, N. K.  
John J. Watson. St. Paul's, N. P. Niles Manchester.

The Convention adjourned without day.

Witness,

JERE. LIPPITT, *Sec'y*

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### 1821.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island holden pursuant to the Constitution, and order of the Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold D. D. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, at Trinity Church, Newport on Tuesday the 5th day of June, A. D. 1821.

Prayers were offered by the Rev. Mr. Burge, rector of St. Paul's Church, N. and S. Kingston. Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence. And after the administration of the Communion, the Convention proceeded to business.

*Present*,—Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church,  
Newport.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's  
Church, Prov.



Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church, N. and S. Kingston.

*Lay Delegates.*

Trinity Church, Newport, Stephen Northam, Samuel Whitehorn.

St. John's Church, Prov., Thos. Lloyd Halsey, Alex'r. Jones, Abner Daggett and Jeremiah Lippitt.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol, J. G. Harding, Charles Collins.

St. Paul's Church, N. Prov. David Wilkinson, John B. Braid and J. Baldwin.

The Bishop being absent, the Rev. Mr. Wheaton presided.

Proceeded to Election, and the following named persons were duly chosen to the offices attached to their names, viz :

Jeremiah Lippitt, Secretary.

Standing Committee, Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rev. Mr. Crocker, Rev. Mr. Adams (Prof.,) Rev. George Taft, Rev. Lemuel Burge, and Messrs. Stephen T. Northam, Thos. L. Halsey and John B. Braid.

Delegates to the General Convention, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Jasper Adams, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Clerical Delegates. Thos. L. Halsey, Stephen T. Northam, Alexander Jones, George D. Wolf, Lay Delegates.

Delegates to Diocesan Convention, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Cler'l Del. Messrs. Samuel Whitehorn, Henry D. Wolf, Tho's. L. Halsey, David Wilkinson, Lay Delegates.

The following Reports from the Rectors of the several Churches were made.

Trinity Church, Newport.—Baptisms, (adults, 11 ; children, 35 ;) 46 ; Marriages, 4 ; Burials, 13 ; Communicants, added 17. Total 150.

St. John's Church, Prov.—Baptisms, (adults 8 ; infants 4 ;) 12 ; Marriages, 7 ; Burials, 13 ; Communicants, 162. A well regulated and growing Sunday School of about 140.

The Treasurer of this Convention makes a verbal report of monies in his hand.

Alexander Jones Esq. was elected Treasurer of this Convention.

Adjourned till to-morrow Morning, 8 o'clock.

*Wednesday, June 6th, 1821.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and present as yesterday, with the exception of Messrs. Braid, and Baldwin.

The Secretary offered the following Resolution, viz :

*Resolved*, That the following be submitted as a substitute for the First Article of the Constitution :

“There shall be an annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State on the second Tuesday in June, in each year, in such place as shall be determined by the Bishop, or by the Standing Committee, if there is no Bishop ; excepting however every third year computing from June, A. D. 1820, when said annual Convention shall be holden at such time as the Bishop, or if no Bishop, as the Standing Committee shall direct.”

*Resolved*, That The Minister and one Layman from each Parish, be appointed to———and obtain subscriptions for the cause of Missions in this State, and that they pay over all sums by them received, to the Treasurer of this Convention.

And the following named Laymen were appointed :

Trinity Church, New., Samuel Whitehorn. St. John's Church, Prov., Benja. C. Cutler. St. Michael's Church, Bris., Henry D. Wolf. St. Paul's Church, N. Prov., Nath'l G. B. Dexter.

*Resolved.* That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Gentlemen, who offered prayers, and preached, at the opening of this Convention.

*Resolved,* That the Thanks of this Convention be given to the President and Secretary, for their Services.

Adjourned.

JERE. LIPPITT, *Sec'ry.*

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### 1822.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, holden pursuant to notice, and by order of the Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, at St. Paul's Church, North Kingston, June 4th, A. D. 1822.

*Present.*—Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D. Bishop, and Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

Rev. Jasper Adams, Professor in Brown University.

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church N. and S. Kingston.

#### *Lay Delegates.*

Edward Brinley, Stephen T. Northam and Samuel Whitehorn, from Trinity Church, Newport.

Thomas L. Halsey, Alexander Jones, Abner Daggett, Jere'h Lippitt, from St. John's Church, Providence.

John G. Harding and Mathias Munro, from St. Michael's, Bris.

John B. Braid and John Baldwin, from St. Paul's Church, N. Prov.

After prayers by the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, a Sermon by the Bishop, and the administration of the Communion, the above named gentlemen appeared, and producing Testimonials, took their Seats.

Proceeded to business, and the following named Gentlemen were elected to the offices set against their names for the ensuing year, viz :

Jeremiah Lippitt, Secretary.

Alexander Jones, Esqr., Treasurer.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Jasper Adams, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Lemuel Burge, and Messrs. Stephen T. Northam, Thomas L. Halsey, and John B. Braid, Standing Committee.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Jasper Adams, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Thomas L. Halsey, Stephen T. Northam, Alexander Jones and George D. Wolf, Deputies to the General Convention.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Jasper Adams, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Clerical, and Messrs. Samuel Whitehorn, Henry D. Wolfe, David Wilkinson, and Nathaniel Searle, Lay Delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

The Treasurer reports verbally, That the funds of this Convention are vested in five shares in the Exchange Bank in Providence, at \$57. That he has received the past year \$25, to constitute Rev. Mr. Taft member for life, from St. Michael's Church.

*Resolved*, That the Standing Committee be authorised to appropriate the funds of this Convention, according to the original provision of the Constitution of the Church Missionary Society,



to the payment of such person as the Bishop shall appoint as a Missionary in this State, to officiate in such place or places as he may direct.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary write to the Rev. John L. Blake, respecting the Note due from him, and request him to state to this Convention, what claims he has for Missionary services.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer and Secretary be a Committee to settle any account which Rev. Mr. Blake may have for missionary services in this State, and to receive such sum as may be due from him.

*Resolved*, That the Rev'd Messrs. Crocker and Adams, and the Sec'y be a Committee to consider and report to the next Convention, Rules and Regulations for the government of a Missionary Society to be composed of the members of the Convention, and such persons as have or may make contributions thereto.

The proposed substitute for the first Article of the Constitution, as recorded in the proceedings of the last Convention, was considered, and thereupon

*Resolved*, That the same be and hereby is approved and established as the first Article of the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State.

*Resolved*, That the Minister and one Layman from each Parish be appointed to receive and obtain subscriptions for the cause of Missions in this State, and that they pay all such sums as may be received, to the Treasurer of this Convention.

Whereupon the following named Laymen were appointed :

Trinity Church.—Samuel Whitehorn.

St. John's Church.—John B. Chase.

St. Michael's Church.—Henry D. Wolf.

St. Paul's Church, N. & S. Kingston.—Joseph Rathbone.

St. Paul's Church, N. P.—Nath'l G. B. Dexter.

*Resolved*, That the following Amendment be made to the first Article of the Constitution, viz: to strike out "Tuesday" and insert "Thursday."

The following is an Abstract of the Reports made to the Convention by the respective Ministers, viz :

Trinity Church, Newport.—Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector.—Baptisms, (children 14, adults 6,) 20 ; Deaths, 21 ; Marriages, 2 ; Communicants, (added 7, died 6 ;) 150. The state of the Parish is flourishing.

St. John's Church, Providence.—Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector.—Baptisms, (infants, 24 ; adults, 7 ;) 31 ; Deaths, 22 ; Marriages, 7 ; Communicants, (added 13,) about 170. The Rector represents that there is a spirit of Revival in this community, somewhat extensive and believed to be deep and lasting.—There have been some valuable acquisitions to the Congregation, and the Church never presented a more promising appearance.

St. Michael's Church, Rt. Rev. Dr. Griswold, Rector.—Baptisms, 12 ; Marriages, 4 ; Deaths, 16 ; Communicants about 190

St. Paul's Church, N. and S. Kingston, Rev. L. Burge, Rector. Baptisms, (adult, 1 ; infant 1 ;) 2 ; Marriages 4 ; Burials 4 ; Rec'd to Communion, 2. Mr. Burge reports, that since the last Convention, he has preached in Charlestown three times, but no favorable account can be given. He says his own parish is exhibiting an appearance more pleasing to the Christian mind, than for years past.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Right Rev. Dr. Griswold, for his excellent Discourse delivered this day, and that Rev. Messrs. Crocker and Wheaton be a Committee, to express the same to the Bishop, and request, in behalf of this Convention, a Copy of said Discourse for publication.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, and the Secretary for their services.

The Bishop gave notice that he appointed the last Tuesday in April next, for the next meeting of the Convention, then to be holden at St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.

Adjourned.

Witness,

JERE. LIPPITT, *Sec'ry.*

## 1823.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, holden pursuant to appointment of the Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D., Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, and pursuant to notice, at St. Paul's Church, North Providence, on the Twenty-ninth day of April A. D. 1823.

*Present.*—Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D. Bishop, and Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, President.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

Rev. Jasper Adams, Professor in Brown University.

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church, N. and S. Kingston.

Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.

Rev. Charles H. Alden, Deacon, Preceptor of Kent Academy, and officiating at East Greenwich.

*Lay Delegates.*

Edward Brinley, Stephen T. Northam, Trinity Church.

Thomas L. Halsey, Alexander Jones, Abner Daggett, Jere'h Lippitt, from St. John's Church,

William Pearce, John G. Harding, Ephraim Munro, St. Michael's Church.

Joshua B. Rathbone, St. Paul's Church, N. and S. Kingston.

Samuel Slater, Samuel Greene, John B. Braid, John Baldwin, from St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.

After Prayers by the Rev Mr. Crocker, and a Sermon by the Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, late of the Diocese of Virginia, now residing in Bristol, and the administration of the Sacrament by the Bishop, the Convention was opened, and the above named gentlemen appearing and producing Testimonials, took their Seats.

*Resolved,* That ministers of this Church, and Candidates for the ministry therein, who may be in town, be admitted to honorary seats in this Convention.

Thereupon the Rev. Mr. Smith, and Mr. West a Candidate, appeared and took their seats.

Proceeded to Election, and the following named gentlemen were elected to the offices set against their names for the ensuing year.

Jeremiah Lippitt, Secretary.

Col. Alex'r Jones, Treasurer.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Jasper Adams, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Lemuel Burge, and Messrs. Thomas L. Halsey, Stephen T. Northam, and John B. Braid, Standing Committee.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Jasper Adams, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Clerical Deputies,—and Col. Thomas L. Halsey, Stephen T. Northam, Esq'r, Col. Alexander Jones and Samuel Slater, Esq'r, Lay Deputies, to the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States.

The Constitution of the Church in the Eastern Diocese, having by a recent amendment, provided for the appointment of Delegates by Parishes, Delegates were not therefore appointed by this Convention.

A written Report from the Treasurer of the funds of the Convention was read, received and ordered to be recorded.

The Secretary makes a verbal report respecting the Note and Claims of Rev. John L. Blake, as recorded in proceedings of the last Convention.

*Resolved*, That the same Committee be continued with the same powers.

The Committee on a Missionary Society, made report



which was read and received, and after sundry amendments, the following Rules and Regulations were considered by articles and passed, as follows.

Rules and Regulations for the establishment and government of the Rhode Island Church Missionary Society.

1 This Society shall be called the Rhode Island Church Missionary Society, and shall be composed of the members of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Rhode Island, elected according to the Constitution of said Church, and also of such persons as have paid to "The Church Missionary Society of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations" or shall pay to the Treasurer of the Convention, the sum of Twenty-five Dollars for missionary purposes, and of persons who shall annually pay the sum of one Dollar, and of such other persons as is hereafter provided.

2 The Bishop of the diocese with which the Church in this State shall be connected, shall be *ex-officio* President of said Society. And if there be no Bishop present, the President of said Convention shall preside, and the Secretary and Treasurer of said Convention, shall be Secretary and Treasurer of said Society.

3 All persons who have paid to "The Church Missionary Society of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations," or who shall pay to the Treasurer of said Convention, the sum of Twenty five Dollars, shall be members for Life of this Society.

4 All monies which have been received from members for Life, or which may be received, shall constitute a fund, the Interest of which and all other monies, unless particularly appropriated by the Donors, may be expended as herein after provided.

5 The President and Standing Committee elected by said Convention shall be a Board of Managers, in whom shall be vested the disposition of the funds of said Society, under the provisions and limitations of the fourth Article.

6 And it is hereby declared, That the object of said Society, is the diffusion of Evangelical Truth according to the doctrines, discipline and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, by supporting Missionaries within this State, and, when deemed expedient by the Board of Managers, by granting

aid to the General Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, for Domestic and Foreign Missions.

7. Missionary Societies which are or may be founded, may become auxiliaries by placing their funds at the disposition of the Board of Managers ; and said Board shall appropriate the same according to such directions as such auxiliary Society shall make known at the time. And each auxiliary Society may send four delegates to all meetings of this Society, who shall have all the privileges of members.

8. There shall be an annual meeting of said Society on the day of the annual Convention of the Church in this State, and at the place where the said Convention shall be holden, when th members of the Convention shall constitute a Quorum. Other meetings may be called by the President or Standing Committee, on giving public notice of the time and place of meeting, when Ten members shall be sufficient to constitute a Quorum.

9. On the evening of the day of the annual meeting, a public discourse shall be delivered ; the Preacher to be appointed by the Bishop, or if there be no Bishop, by the Standing Committee ; and a Contribution shall be had for the funds of said Society. And at the annual meeting, the Treasurer shall make a written Report of the funds, and the Board of Managers shall also report whatever relates to the objects of the Society.

The amendment proposed at the last Convention to the first article of the Constitution, is withdrawn by the Proposer, S. T. Northam, Esq.

*Resolved*, That this Convention do approve of the formation of Societies in the several Parishes, auxiliary to the Missionary Society of this State, and that the respective Ministers give notice of this Resolution to their Parishes.

*Resolved*, That Rev. Mr. Burge, Col. Nathaniel Searle and the Secretary, be a Committee to enquire into the facts relative to Lands given to the Church, or to the Society for the propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, situate in Charlestown, and to report at the next Convention.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence, be, and he is hereby nominated for a Trustee of the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant

Episcopal Church of the United States of America, from this State.

*Resolved*, That Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, be, and he is hereby nominated for a Trustee of said Seminary, in addition, under the provisions of the Constitution of said Seminary.

The Bishop Reports that, during the past year, he has employed the Rev. Charles H. Alden, as a Missionary within this State.

The following is an abstract of the Reports made by the several ministers, to the Convention.

Trinity Church, Newport.—Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector, Baptisms, 7 ; Marriages, 5 ; Burials, 17 ; Communicants, about the same as last year, 150.

St. John's Church, Providence.—Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rector, Baptisms, (adults, 10 ; infants, 7 ; ) 17 ; Marriages, 8 ; Burials, (infants and adults,) 15 ; Admitted to Communion 15 ; Communicants, about 180.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Right Rev. A. V. Griswold, D. D. Rector. Baptisms, 25 ; Marriages, 6 ; Deaths, 15 ; — Communicants, about 300. In the number of the communicants several are included, says the Bishop, who have removed from Bristol, and reside in situations where they will not, by any other clergyman, be reported. The congregation is but little, if at all, diminished. Piety and zeal appear to be increasing.

St. Paul's Church, N. & S. Kingston.—Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector. Baptisms, (infants, 6 ; adults, 4, ) 10 ; Communicants, (admitted) 5 ; Buried, 4.

St. Paul's Church, North Providence.—Rev. George Taft, Rector. Communicants, 56 ; Sunday School scholars, 90.—During the two years past, Baptisms, 6 ; Marriages, 10 ; Deaths, 15.

The Rev. Charles H. Alden, Deacon, reports, That he has, under the orders of the Bishop, as a Missionary within this State, been employed from the 17th of December last, chiefly at East Greenwich. He remarks

“That the people there had not had the services of any regular clergyman for some time previous to his arrival.”

He states that they were attached to a different mode of worship, but their pious liberality of sentiment and opinion fully entitle them to the esteem and affection of the members of the Church, and that he has engaged himself as their minister for one year.

The following is the Report of the Treasurer, made to this Convention. (See next page.)

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Benjamin B. Smith, for his Sermon this day delivered before the Convention.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of the Convention be presented to the President for his Services.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Secr’y for his services.



*Dr. R. I. Episcopal Missionary Society in acc't with Alex'r Jones, Treas. Cr.*

| 1820.     |  | 1821.     |   |
|-----------|--|-----------|---|
| July 20.  | To cash adv'g Society meeting, \$ 1 00                                 | April 27. | By balance per acc't rendered, \$477 59                                       |
| "         | ditto paid Mr. Burge per order Bishop Griswold for L. B. 100 00        | Aug. 8.   | cash rec'd S. Wheaton, Cont'n, 14 50  |
| Nov. 2.   | To cash p'd A. Evans, use Hall &c. at Chepatchet, order N. B. C. 45 00 | 1821.     | Bishop Griswold's subscription in Bristol, 43 00                              |
| 1821.     |  | May 30.   | Ladies of Bristol to constitute Rev'd G. Taft Life member, 25 00              |
| July 9.   | To cash for 5 shares in Exchange Bank, 275 62                          | 1822.     | Dividend on Bank Stock, 15 00   |
| 1822.     |  | Aug. 24.  | ditto ditto 13 75   |
| Nov. 2.   | To cash p'd Rev. Mr. Burge per order Bishop Griswold, 100 00           | 1823.     |   |
| 1823.     |  | April 8.  |   |
| April 28. | To balance to new acc't, 117 58  |           | By balance per contra (including J. L. Blake's Note, \$100, doubtful,) 117 58 |
|           |  |           | Funds of the Society,—Cash on hand, 17 58                                     |
|           |  |           | 5 Bank shares, cost 275 62  |
|           |  |           | <u>\$293 20</u>   |
|           |  |           | Errors Excepted.  |
|           |  |           | ALEX'R JONES, Treasurer.  |

Providence, April 28th, 1823.

## 1824.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, holden pursuant to the Constitution, at St. John's Church, Providence, on Tuesday, 8th June, A. D. 1824.

*Present*,—The Right Rev'd Alexander V. Griswold, D. D. Bishop, and Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church, N. and S. Kingston.

Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence.

Rev. Charles H. Alden, Deacon, Preceptor of Kent Academy, and officiating in East Greenwich.

*Lay Delegates.*

Edward Brinley and Stephen T. Northam, Trinity Church, Newport.

Thomas L. Halsey, and Chas. F. Tillinghast, St. John's Providence.

John G. Harding, and Ephraim Munro, St. Michael's, Bristol.

Joshua B. Rathbone, and William A. Shaw, St. Paul's, N. & S. Kingston.

David Wilkinson, Edward S. Wilkinson, and Caleb Drown, St. Paul's, North Providence.

After Prayers by the Rev. Mr. Taft, and a Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Burge, and the administration of the Sacrament by the Bishop, the above named gentlemen appeared, and, presenting their Testimonials, took their seats.

Proceeded to Election, when the following gentlemen were chosen for the offices set against their names, for the year ensuing :

Charles F. Tillinghast, Secretary.

Alexander Jones, Treasurer.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rev. Charles H. Alden, and Messrs. Thomas L. Halsey, Stephen T. Northam, and John B. Braid, Standing Committee.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. George Taft, and Rev. Charles H. Alden, Clerical Deputies, and Thomas L. Halsey, Stephen T. Northam, Samuel Slater, and Alexander Jones, Lay Delegates to the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Stephen T. Northam, and William Hunter, Esq., be appointed a Committee to correspond with the Society in England for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, for the purpose of procuring from them a letter of Attorney to recover and dispose of the Lands, situate in Charlestown in this State, which were given to the said Society.

*Resolved*, That we consider ourselves pledged as a Convention to use all Exertions in our power to raise the Sum of two hundred dollars to be paid to the Rev. Charles H. Alden, for his Services as a Missionary for the ensuing year, commencing from this Convention, and also the Sum of one hundred dollars in addition to what he has already been paid for his past services.

The following is an abstract of the Reports made by the several Ministers to the Convention.

St. John's Church, Providence.—Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rector. Admitted to the Communion, 6 ; Baptized, 14 ; Married, 6 ; Buried, 15 ; Number of Communicants, about the same as last year.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold, Rector. Baptized, 12 ; Marriages, 1 ; Deaths, 5 ; Communicants about 200.

St. Paul's Church, N. and S. Kingston.—Rev. L. Burge, Rector. Baptized, 1 ; Admitted to Communion, 1 ; Deaths, 4 ; Communicants, 16 ; Whole number of Baptized ; 35. Sunday School Scholars, 39.

St. Paul's Church, North Providence.—Rev. G. Taft, Rector. Communicants, 58 ; Marriages, 7 ; Deaths, 7 ; Baptisms 4 ; Sunday School Scholars, 127.

Adjourned,—Witness.

CHARLES F. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary*.

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### 1825.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, holden pursuant to the Constitution, at St. Michael's Church, in Bristol, on Tuesday, 14th June, A. D. 1825.

*Present*.—Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, Bishop, and Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rector St. John's Church, Providence.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. Geo. Taft, Rector St. Paul's, N. Providence.

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector St. Paul's, N. and S. Kingston.

#### *Lay Delegates.*

Joshua B. Rathbone, St. Paul's, N. & S. Kingston.

John G. Harding, St. Michael's, Bristol.

Thomas L. Halsey, Alex. Jones, Abner Daggett, St. John's, Providence.

David Wilkinson, Edward S. Wilkinson, Caleb Drown, Abner S. Tompkins, St. Paul's, N. Providence.

Stephen T. Northam, Trinity, Newport.

Rev. Lemuel Burge was chosen Secretary, *pro tempore*.

Charles F. Tillinghast was chosen Secretary, and Alexander Jones, Treasurer, for the ensuing year.



Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rev. Charles H. Alden, and Messrs. Thos. L. Halsey, Stephen T. Northam, John B. Braid Lemuel C. Richmond, and Alexander Jones, were elected as the Standing Committee.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Charles H. Alden, Clerical Deputies, and Messrs. Nath'l Searle, Stephen T. Northam, Samuel Slater, Alexander Jones, Lay Delegates to the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Stephen T. Northam, and William Hunter, be appointed a Committee to correspond with the Society in England for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, for the purpose of procuring from them a Letter of Attorney to recover, and dispose of lands situate in Charlestown in this State which were given to the said Society.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of one with the Clergyman be appointed in each Parish in this State, to carry into effect, or in other words, to redeem the pledge made at the last Convention to the Rev. Charles H. Alden.

Alexander Jones, Nathaniel G. B. Dexter, Edward Brinley, and Ephraim Munroe were chosen.

The following is an abstract of the Reports made by the several Ministers to the Convention.

St. Michael's, Bristol.—Rt. Rev. Alex. V. Griswold, Rector. Baptisms, 16 ; Marriages, 8 ; Deaths, 10. Communicants about 200. The Parish continues flourishing.

Trinity, Newport.—Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector. Baptisms, 35 ; Marriages, 12 ; Deaths, 31 ; Communicants added, 12 ;—Present Number 136.

St. John's, Providence.—Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rector. Baptisms, 14 ; Marriages, 2 ; Deaths, 16 ; Present Number of Communicants, 180.

St. Paul's N. Providence.—Rev. George Taft, Rector. Baptisms, 7 ; Marriages, 13 ; Deaths, 10 ; Communicants, 64. Sunday School Scholars, 180.

St. Paul's, N. Kingston,—Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector. Baptisms, 6 ; Marriage, 1 ; Deaths, 2 ; Sunday School Scholars, 34.

Recorded Aug. 6, 1825, from minutes of Lemuel Burge, Sec. *pro tem*.

CHARLES F. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary*.

## 1826.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode Island, holden pursuant to the Constitution, by order of the Bishop, at Trinity Church in Newport, on Tuesday, 6th June, A. D. 1826.

*Present*.—Right Rev. Alexander Viets Griswold, D. D. Bp. of the Eastern Diocese, and Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence.

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's, North Kingston.

### *Lay Delegates,*

Mr. Alexander Jones, St. John's, Providence.

Mr. Stephen T. Northam, Mr. Edward Brinley, Trinity, Newport.

Mr. David Wilkinson, Mr. David Lefavour, St. Paul's, North Providence.

Mr. John G. Harding, Mr. Matthias Munro, St. Michael's, Bristol.

Mr. Joshua B. Rathbone, Mr. William A. Shaw, St. Paul's, North Kingston.

Convention being declared open by the Bishop, proceeded to election, when the following gentlemen were chosen to fill the offices set against their names, for the ensuing year :

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Secretary.

Mr. Alexander Jones, Treasurer.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, N. B. Crocker, George Taft, Lemuel Burge, Charles H. Alden, Clerical Members of the Standing Committee. Mr. Thomas L. Halsey, Alexander Jones, David Lefavour, Lem'l C. Richmond, Stephen T. Northam, Lay Members of the Standing Committee.

Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Salmon Wheaton, George Taft, Charles H. Alden, Clerical Delegates to General Convention. Mr. Stephen T. Northam, Moses Lippitt, David Wilkinson, Alexander Jones, Lay Delegates to Gen'l Convention.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Mr. William Hunter and Mr. Nathaniel Searle, Esquire, be appointed a Committee to correspond with the Society in England for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, for the purpose of procuring a Letter of Attorney, to recover and dispose of Lands situate in Charlestown, in this State, which were given to that Society, by an Indian Chief named George.

*Resolved*, That Mr. S. Douglass, Deacon, be admitted to an Honorary seat in this Convention.

*Resolved*, That it is expedient for the Church in this State, to raise by Subscription the sum of Two thousand dollars within the course of two years, to be added to the Episcopal fund for the support of the Bishop of the Diocese.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to devise ways and means for the increase of the Bishop fund, according to the last resolve, and report to the Convention at 6 O. C. P. M., this afternoon.

Whereupon, Motion being made and recorded, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, and Mr. Stephen T. Northam were appointed that Committee.

*Resolved*, That this Convention be adjourned to meet at 6 O. C. P. M., this afternoon.

*Six O. C. P. M., June 6th. A. D. 1826.*

Convention met according to adjournment.

When the following Report by the last named Committee was read and received.

We, the Subscribers, having been appointed a Committee by the Convention of the State of Rhode Island to take into consideration the subject of a letter from the Secretary of the Diocesan Convention in relation to the subject of a fund for the support of the Episcopate, report, that in our opinion it is expedient to attempt to raise two thousand dollars by subscription in this State. The Subscription of each individual to be binding only upon the condition that the above named sum be obtained within the period of two years from the sixth of June, 1826. And provided said sum above named, shall be subscribed within two years from the date of this report, each Subscriber or his heir shall be obligated to pay the sum annexed to his name, within three months from the completion of the sum proposed to be subscribed.

NATHAN B. CROCKER,  
SALMON WHEATON,  
STEPHEN T. NORTHAM

Newport, 6th June, A. D. 1826.

Motion being made and seconded, Mr. Alexander Jones, Mr. Stephen T. Northam, and Mr. David Wilkinson, were appointed a Committee to carry into effect the object of the above report.



*Voted*, That the Thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rev. Mr. Taft, for his sermon delivered this day, and that the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, and Stephen T. Northam, Esq., be a Committee to wait on him, and request a copy for the press.

Convention Adjourned *sine die*.

LEMUEL BURGE, *Secr'y*.

The following is an abstract of the Reports made by the several Ministers to the Convention.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Rt. Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D. Rector. Baptisms, 19 ; Marriages, 2 ; Deaths, 17 ; Communicants, 192.

St. Paul's Church, North Providence.—Rev. George Taft, Rector. Baptisms, 13 ; Marriages, 4 ; Deaths, 15 ; Communicants, 70 ; Sunday Scholars, 250.

St. Paul's Church, North Kingston.—Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector. Baptisms, none ; Marriages 2 ; Deaths, 2 ; Communicants, 15.

St. John's Church, Providence.—Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rector. Baptisms, 12 ; Marriages, 6 ; Deaths, 20 ; Communicants, 180.

Convention adjourned.

Witness,

LEMUEL BURGE, *Secretary*.

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1827.

At a meeting of the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Rhode Island, holden pursuant to the first article of the Constitution, and by notice at St. Paul's Church, North Kingston, on Tuesday 12th June, 1827.

*Present.*— Right Rev. Alexander Viets Griswold, Bishop and Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.  
Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.  
Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.  
Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.  
Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church, N. Kingston.  
Rev. C. H. Alden, Residing in Providence.

Mr. Luke Drury, Delegate from St. Michael's Ch., Bristol.

Mr. Thomas L. Halsey, Mr. Moses Lippitt, Mr. Alexander Jones, Mr. John B. Chace, Delegates from St. John's Ch., Providence.

Wm. A. Shaw, Beriah W. Reynolds, Benoni P. Bates, Delegates from St. Paul's Ch. North Kingston.

Convention being declared open by the Bishop,

Proceeded to Election, when the following gentlemen were chosen to fill the offices set against their names, for ensuing year.

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Secretary; Mr. Alexander Jones, Treasurer.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Charles H. Alden, Clerical Members of the Standing Committee.—  
Mr. Stephen T. Northam, Mr. Alexander Jones, Mr. Lemuel C. Richmond, Mr. David LeFavour, Lay Members of the Standing Committee.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Charles H. Alden, Clerical Delegates to the Gen'l Convention; Mr. Stephen T. Northam, Mr. Moses Lippitt, Mr. David Wilkinson, Mr. Alexander Jones, Lay Delegates to the Gen'l Convention.

Motion being made by the Rev. N. B. Crocker in relation to a certain tract of Land situated in Charles-town in this State, belonging to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, in England, by Deed of Gift from George Ninnegrit, an Indian Chief,—A Committee of four was nominated and appointed as follows:—Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rev. Lem'l Burge, Mr. William Hunter and Nathaniel Searle, Esq., to make application to the above named Society for a power of Attorney, (Said Power of Attorney to be granted to a Board of Trustees, whose names are as follows:—Messrs. Samuel Slater, Zachariah Allen, Stephen T. Northam, Luke Drury, and Samuel W. Whitehorn,) to sue for, recover and dispose of the avails of said Land according to the intention of the Donor.

The following is the Report of the Treasurer made to the Convention in A. D. 1825, with the exception of the Verbal part. (See next page.)

The Secretary then read a Letter received from the Secretaries of the House of Bishops, and House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, proposing certain alterations in the Liturgy and Constitution of the Church. And moved that the consideration of it might be put over to the next Annual Convention, but it was not seconded, and therefore lost.

The subject was then taken up, and after a little debate, the Question was put,—“ Will this Convention approbate the proposed alteration?” when the negative appeared almost unanimously.

*Dr. Rhode Island Epis. Missionary Society in account with Alexander Jones, Treasurer. Cr.*

| 1823.            |  | 1824.    |          | 1825.                                     |          |
|------------------|--|----------|----------|---|----------|
| Dec. 1.          | To cash paid Rev. Chas. H. Alden,        | \$ 30 00 | Apr. 28. | By balance of old acct. rendered to       |          |
| Jan. 7.          | " " by Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold,          | 40 00    | July 18. | Conv.includ. Rev. J. L. Blake's Note, \$  | 117 58   |
| July 29.         | " " by " "                               | 40 00    |          | By dividend on five shares of Ex-         |          |
| 1824.            |  |          |          | change Bank stock, 6 months,              | 8 75     |
| April 3.         | " " by " "                               | 20 00    | 1824.    |   |          |
| June 8.          | " " by " "                               | 25 00    | Aug. 7.  | By ditto 1 year.                          | 15 50    |
|                  | " " by " "                               | 25 00    | 1825.    |   |          |
| 1825.            | " " by Rev. N. B. Crocker,               | 25 00    | July 15, | By ditto 1 year,                          | 15 00    |
| Feb'y 8.         | " " J. L. Blake's note, forwarded him by | 100 00   | Jan'y 7. | By cash from Mis'y Soc. Bristol, A. V. G. | 40 00    |
|                  | mail,                                    |          | 1823.    |   |          |
| Aug't 3.         | " Cash pd Rev. C. H. Alden, per receipt, | 26 83    | July 29. | " " " " " "                               | 40 00    |
| " 6.             | " Deposited in Savings Bank,             | 100 00   | 1824.    |   |          |
|                  |  |          | Ap'l 3.  | " " " " " "                               | 20 00    |
|                  |  |          | June 8.  | " " " " " "                               | 25 00    |
|                  |  |          |          | " " St. Paul's Ch. Pawtucket,             | 25 00    |
|                  |  |          |          | " " St. John's Ch. Prov. N. B. C.         | 25 00    |
|                  |  |          |          | " " Bp. G. for J. L. Blakes note          | 100 00   |
| Errors Excepted. |  | \$431 83 |          |   | \$431 83 |

*Funds of the R. I. Epis. Missionary Society.*

*Verbal Report, made 12th June, 1827.*

|                |                  |                                     |          |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Cash received, | \$22 50          | Five shares in Exchange Bank, value | \$275 00 |
| Paid away,     | 4 50             | Deposits in Savings Bank,           | 100 00   |
|                |                  | From verbal report,                 | 18 00    |
|                | Balance, \$18 00 |                                     |          |
|                |                  | Sum Total,                          | \$393 00 |

Providence, Aug't 6th, 1825.

ALEXANDER JONES, Treasurer.



The following is an abstract of the Clerical Reports made to the Convention.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold, D. D. Rector.—Marriages, 6 ; Baptisms, 10 ; Deaths, 9 ; Communicants about 170.

St. John's Church, Providence.—Rev. Nathan B Crocker, Rector.—Marriages, 4 ; Baptisms, 16 ; Communicants, (rec'd 3, susp'd 1 ; ) about 180.

St. Paul's Church, North Kingston.—Rev. L. Burge, Rector, Marriages, 2 ; Baptisms, 1 ; Deaths, 5 ; Communicants 14.

Trinity Church, Newport.—Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector.—Marriages, 5 ; Baptisms, 17 ; Deaths, 11 ; Communicants, (rec'd 5,) 128 ; Sunday Scholars, 120.

St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket.—Rev. George Taft, Rector.—Marriages, 4 ; Baptisms, 7 ; Deaths, 10 ; Communicants, 75 ; Sunday School Scholars 200.

Convention adjourned *sine die*.

Attest, LEMUEL BURGE, *Secretary*.

## 1828.

At a meeting of the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Rhode Island, holden pursuant to the first article of the Constitution, at St. Paul's Church, in Pawtucket, on Tuesday, June 10th, 1828.

*Present*.—Right Rev. A. V. Griswold, Bp. and Rector of St Michael's Ch., Bristol.

Rev. N. B. Crocker. Rector of St. John's Ch., Providence.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Ch., Newport.

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. P.

Rev. Charles H. Alden, Teacher of a Select School, Providence.

Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Ch., Pawtucket.

Mr. Joshua B. Rathbone, Lay Delegate from St. Paul's, Ch., N. Kingston.

Mr. Stephen T. Northam, Lay Delegate from Trinity Ch., Newport.

Mr. William Pearce, Mr. Golden Dearth, Mr. John G. Harding, Lay Delegates from St. Michael's Ch., Bristol.

Mr. David Lefavour, Mr. Barney Merry, Lay Delegates from St. Paul's Ch., Pawtucket.

Mr. Alexander Jones, Mr. John Carlile, Mr. John B. Chace, Mr. Wm. E. Richmond, Lay Delegates from St. John's Ch., Providence.

Convention being declared open for business by the Bishop,—Proceeded to Election,—when the following named Gentlemen were chosen to fill the offices set against their names for the ensuing year.

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Secretary.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Crocker,

*Resolved*, That this Convention do now adjourn to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M., in this Church.

*St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket, }  
Tuesday, June 10, 1828, 3 o'clock, P. M. }*

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and the roll being called,—Proceeded on with Election.

Mr. Alexander Jones, Treasurer.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rev. Charles H. Alden, Clerical Members of the Standing Committee; Mr. Stephen T. Northam, Mr. Alexander Jones, Mr. Lemuel C. Richmond, Mr. David Lefavour, Lay Members of the Standing Committee.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Charles H. Alden, Clerical Delegates

to General Convention; Mr. Stephen T. Northam, Mr. Nathaniel Searle, Esq., Mr. Alexander Jones, Mr. David Wilkinson, Lay Delegates to the General Convention.

The Treasurer being called upon to report, offered the following, which was received and ordered to be recorded.

The Treasurer of the Rhode Island Episcopal Missionary Society, reports,—

|   |       |          |
|---|-------|----------|
| Funds of the Society, consist of Five Shares in the |       |          |
| Exchange Bank, (value)                              |       | \$275 00 |
| Deposits in Savings Bank,                           |       | 100 00   |
| Cash on hand (from recollection), Dividends,        | 37 50 |          |
| Deduct paid Gen'l Convention for Clergy,            | 4 50  | 33 00    |
| Errors Excepted,                                    |       | \$408 00 |
| ALEXANDER JONES, Treasurer.                         |       |          |

Pawtucket, June 10th, 1828.

Motion being made respecting the Charlestown Claim, a Committee of four was nominated and appointed, viz : Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Mr. William Hunter, and Mr. Nathaniel Searle, Esq., to make application to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in England, for a power of Attorney to be granted to the following named Gentlemen, viz :— Mr. Samuel Slater, Mr. Zachariah Allen, Mr. Stephen T. Northam, Mr. Luke Drury, and Mr. Samuel Whitehorn, who were appointed by the Convention in A. D. 1827, a Board of Trustees, to receive the same,—to sue for, recover and dispose of, according to the intention of the Donor, the annual avails of a certain tract of Land lying in Charlestown, in this State, belonging to the above named Society as doth fully appear on the Land evidence in Charlestown.

The following is an abstract of the Clerical Reports made to the Convention.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold, D. D. Rector. — Marriages, 6 ; Baptisms, 11 ; Communicants, 170 ; Deaths, 3 ; Sunday Scholars, 112.

Trinity Church, Newport.—Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector.—Baptisms, 10 ; Marriages, 7 ; Funerals, 13 ; Communicants 131.

St. Paul's Church, North Kingston.—Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector.—Baptisms, 3 ; Marriages, 6 ; Funerals, 5 ; Communicants, ——— ; Sunday Scholars, 65 ;

St. John's Church, Providence.—Nathan B. Crocker, Rector. Baptisms, 17 ; Marriages, 8 ; Burials, 20 ; Communicants, 180 ; Sunday School flourishing.

St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket.—Rev. George Taft, Rector.—Communicants, 70 ; Baptisms, 8 ; Marriages, 4 ; Deaths, 5 ; Sunday Scholars 225.

No further business being before the Convention, an Adjournment was moved, and the Convention was adjourned *sine die*.

RT. REV. ALEX'R V. GRISWOLD, D. D. *President*.

*Attest*,—LEMUEL BURGE, *Secretary*.

## 1829.

At a meeting of the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Rhode Island, held pursuant to the first article of the Constitution, at St. John's Church, in Providence, June 9th, A. D. 1829, due notice of the time and place having been given by the Secretary.

*Present*,—Right Rev. A. V. Griswold, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.



Rev. N. B. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. Geo. Taft, Rector of St. Paul's, N. Providence.

Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's, Wickford.

Rev. Charles H. Alden, Private Instructor in Providence.

Mr. John G. Harding, Mr. Matthias Munroe, Mr. Golden Dearth, Delegates from St. Michael's Ch., Bristol.

Mr. William E. Richmond, Esq., Delegate from St. John's Church, Providence.

Mr. Stephen T. Northam, Esq., Delegate from Trinity Ch., Newport.

Mr. Barney Merry, Mr. Caleb Drown, Delegates from St. Paul's Ch., North Providence.

Mr. William A. Shaw, Delegate from St. Paul's Ch., Wickford.

After Prayers by Rev. Mr. Taft, and a very appropriate Sermon by the Bishop, the Holy Communion having been also duly administered, the above named Clerical Gentlemen, and also their Delegates, on presenting their testimonials, took their seats.

A Secretary being called for, Rev'd Lemuel Burge was nominated and elected unanimously.

On motion, the Parochial Reports were presented and read.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—In the Parish in Bristol, during the year last past has been 4 Marriages; 5 Baptisms, and 9 Deaths. There are about 162 Communicants. A number of families, including several Communicants, have removed from the town during the last year; and so large a part of my time is occupied in the various Diocesan duties, that there is, of necessity, a great deficiency of the performance of parochial duties. These are among the causes of so few baptisms, and no increase of communicants. The Sunday School is large and flourishing; and there are some indications of increasing piety and zeal.

ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD,  
Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

St. John's Church, Providence.—The report of Baptisms and admissions to the Communion in St. John's Church the past year, will show that the preaching of the gospel among us has not been blessed as in former years. While we record the fact, we feel a painful conviction that the fault is entirely our own. We would not, however, despise the day of small things, but bless the Lord and praise His holy name for the few which have been added to His church, of such, we trust, as will be saved. We will rejoice too, and thank Him that there are no divisions among us in the Apostolic sense of the word, but that the unity, which for one quarter of a century we have been permitted to enjoy, has suffered no interruption. A full enumeration of our reasons for thankfulness to the great Head of the Church, would be a trespass upon the time of this Convention, and foreign from the design of their parochial reports.

But we should do violence to our feelings, and incur the charge of indifference to measures which are supposed to promise efficient aid to the cause of piety and Episcopacy, were we not to say that sundry individuals of this Church have organized an Episcopal Society on the west side of the river. Their Delegates are now here, and claim to be admitted as its legal representatives in this Convention. We trust that it will be your pleasure to recognize and honor their claim, when they shall have shown by their articles of association, or otherwise, that the Constitution of the Ep. Church in this State is acceded to by the Society they represent. We have baptized (Infants, 8, Adults, 2,) 10; Admitted to the Communion, 6, (by Letter, 2,) making 8; Married, 6; Buried, 18; Whole number of Communicants, about 160. We have a Sunday School of 200 children, not surpassed, we believe, by any others, in regard to the ability and faithfulness of its Teachers, or the improvement of the taught.

NATHAN B. CROCKER,

Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

Providence, June 9th, 1829.

Trinity Church, Newport.—During the past year there have been 9 Baptisms, 8 Marriages, and 14 Deaths. Eight have been added to the Communion. Whole number of Communicants, about 123. The Sunday School is large, and in a flourishing condition. The state of the parish is prosperous.

SALMON WHEATON,

Rector of Trinity Ch., Newport.

St. Paul's Church, North Providence.—The Rector reports as follows: Communicants, 75; Baptisms, 9; Marriages, 16;—Deaths, 10; Sunday Scholars, 150.

GEORGE TAFT, Rector.

St. Paul's Church, Wickford.—Since our last Convention no material external change has taken place in my parish. I have Married 4, and Buried 2. Whole number of Communicants, 43.

LEMUEL BURGE, Rector.

The following promise of conformity was received and read by the Secretary, and ordered to be recorded :

At a meeting of the Pewholders of Grace Church, holden at their house of worship, on Tuesday, June 2d, 1829, it was resolved, " That this Church promise conformity to the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State, and also to the Constitution and Canons of the Eastern Diocese, and of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America."

A true Copy.

A. M. VINTON, *Sec'y*.

And on motion made and seconded,—Grace Church was received into union with the Convention.

Whereupon Thomas B. Lippitt having been regularly elected a Delegate to represent said Church in Convention, as was shown by certificate, took his seat as member thereof.

On motion made and seconded,

*Resolved*, That St. Mark's Church, in Warren, be received into union with this Convention.

Whereupon Messrs. George Pierce, and Seth Peck, after producing a certificate of their appointment as Delegates, which was read and approved, took their seats as members of the Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Col. Alexander Jones be elected Treasurer.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Charles H. Alden, Messrs. Stephen T. Northam, Alexander Jones, Lemuel C. Richmond, and David Lefavour be elected the Standing Committee.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Charles H. Alden, Messrs. Stephen T. Northam, Nathaniel Searle, Alexander Jones, and David Wilkinson, Esq., be elected Delegates to the next Gen'l Convention, which will assemble in the City of Philadelphia in August next.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Messrs. William Hunter, Nathaniel Searle, and William E. Richmond, Esq., be, and they are, hereby appointed a Committee to request the Society in England for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, to grant a Letter, or power of Attorney, to Messrs. Samuel Slater, Zachariah Allen, Stephen T. Northam, Matthias Munroe, and Samuel Whitehorn, (who are also hereby appointed a Board of Trustees to receive the same,) to sue for, recover, and dispose of, according to the intention of the Donor, the avails of a certain tract of Land in Charlestown, State of Rhode Island, which was given to said Society by an Indian Chief named George Ninnegrit, as is clearly shown by the Land Evidence in Charlestown.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to procure a Letter of Attorney from the Society in England, have power to draw from the Treasury the sum of fifty dollars, proceeds of the Missionary Fund, and from the same to pay any expense that may arise in obtaining said Letter.

The following report of the Treasurer was presented by the Rev. Mr. Crocker, which was received and ordered to be recorded. (See next page.)

On motion, *Resolved*, That hereafter it shall be the duty of each Rector or Minister of a Church in this State, to add to his parochial report, a statement of whatever may have been done for Missionary purposes within his parish, during the last year.

On motion, *Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of each Clergyman having a Church in this State, within one month from this day, to form a Society in his Parish, auxiliary to the State Missionary Society, and make report of the same to the Bishop.

There being no further business,—

On motion, *Voted*, That the Convention be dissolved.

A true record,

*Attest*, LEMUEL BURGE, *Secretary*.





## 1830.

At the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Rhode Island, holden at St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Tuesday, June 8th, 1830.

*Present.*—Rt. Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D. D. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Kingston, Rev. John Bristed, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Rev. Samuel Fuller, jun., Rector of Grace Church, Providence, Rev. George W. Hathaway, Minister of St. Mark's, Warren, Rev. Charles H. Alden, residing at Bristol. *Nine* Clerical members.

*Lay Delegates.*

St. John's Church, Providence, Alexander Jones, John Carlile, Wm. E. Richmond.

Trinity Ch., Newport, Edward Brinley.

St. Paul's Ch., N. Providence, David Wilkinson, Hezekiah Howe, Ed. S. Wilkinson.

St. Paul's Ch., N. Kingston, Joshua B. Rathbone, Wm. A. Shaw, David U. Hagen.

St. Michael's, Church, Bristol.—William Pierce, Benj. Hall, John G. Harding, John DeWolf, Jr.

Grace Church, Providence.—Geo. S. Wardwell, Richmond Brownell, Benj. F. Hallett, Philip S. Gardner.

St. Mark's, Warren.—Geo. Munroe, Geo. Pierce.

*Seven* churches; *Twenty* lay members.

Morning Prayers were read by Rev'd Dr. Crocker.—Convention Sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Burge, and the Communion was administered by the Bishop, assisted by Rev. Dr. Crocker.

Rev. Mr. Burge resigned the office of Secretary of the Convention. Rev. Mr. Fuller was appointed his successor. Thanks of the Convention were given to Rev. Mr. Burge for his Sermon.

Clergymen of other Dioceses, Candidates for Holy Orders, and those who are intending to be such, admitted to honorary seats in the Convention.

The following Committees were appointed :

On the State Convention.—Rev. Messrs. Wheaton and Taft, and Wm. E. Richmond, Esq.

On the Missionary Society.—Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rev. Mr. Bristed, Geo. S. Wardwell.

On Sunday Schools.—Rev. Mr. Hathaway, Edward Brinley, Ed. S. Wilkinson.

Alexander Jones was re-appointed Treasurer.

The Committee on Church Lands, appointed at the last Convention, was discharged, and a new Committee appointed on the same subject, consisting of Rev. Mr. Bristed, Wm. E. Richmond, Benj. F. Hallett.

The report of the Committee on the State Convention was received and accepted. Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That hereafter *three* sermons be preached at the annual meeting of the Convention, viz: the Convention Sermon on the morning of the first day of the session. A Missionary Sermon on the evening of the same day, and a Sermon on Sunday Schools on the morning of the second day of the session.

Rev. Dr. Crocker was appointed to preach the Convention Sermon, at the next meeting of the Convention ; Rev. Mr. Fuller, the Missionary Sermon, and Rev. Mr. Taft his substitute ; Rev. Mr. Hathaway to preach the Sermon on Sunday Schools, and Rev. Mr. Bristed his substitute.

*Resolved*, That the Standing Committee consist of the Parochial Clergy, and one Layman from each Parish.

The following were appointed the Standing Committee for the ensuing year : Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rev. Mr.

Wheaton, Rev. Mr. Taft, Rev. Mr. Burge, Rev. Mr. Bristed, Rev. Mr. Fuller, David Lefavour, Lemuel C. Richmond, Alexander Jones, Stephen T. Northam, Geo. Pierce, Geo. S. Wardwell, Wm. A. Shaw.

The following were appointed Delegates to the General Convention.

Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rev Mr. Taft, Rev. Mr. Bristed, Stephen T. Northam, John DeWolf, jun., Alexander Jones, David Wilkinson.

Report of Committee on the Missionary Society was received and accepted ; whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the *Eighth* Article of the Constitution of the Missionary Society be altered, so that "Five members shall be sufficient to constitute a quorum."

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools was received and accepted ; whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That this Convention approve of the formation of the Rhode Island Prot. Epis. Sund. School Soc., auxiliary to the Gen. Prot. Epis. Sun. School Union ; and that this Convention recommend to such Episcopal Sun. Schools to become auxiliary to the State Society, as are not already so.

Report of Mr. Jones, the Treasurer of the Missionary Society, was received and approved.

#### ABSTRACT OF PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

St. John's, Providence.—Baptisms, 16 ; Infants, 11 ; Adults, 5 ; Admitted to the Communion, 5 ; Marriages, 9 ; Burials, 13 ; Sunday Scholars, 140 ; Sunday School Library, 270 volumes ; Contributions to the State Missionary Society, \$61.

Trinity Ch., Newport.—Baptisms, 21 ; Adults, 5 ; Children, 16 ; Funerals, 17 ; Added to Communion, 6 ; Removed, 7 ;—Present number, 125 ; Sunday Scholars, 142 ; Superintendents, 2 ; Teachers, 17 ; Sunday School Library, 250 volumes.

St. Paul's Ch., N. Providence.—Baptisms, 45 ; Marriages, 10 ; Burials, 5 ; Confirmation, 70 ; Communicants, 124 ; Sunday School Scholars, 125 ; Missionary Funds, \$24 55 ; Sunday School Library, 250 volumes.



St. Paul's, N. Kingston.—Burials, 2; Contributions to the Missionary Society, \$3.

St. Michael's, Bristol.—Baptisms, Adults, 30; Confirmed about 60; added to the Communion, 60; Sunday Scholars 250; Teachers, 22; volumes in Sunday School Library 240; Contributions of Missionary Society \$337 41.

Grace Ch., Providence.—Baptisms, 2; Communicants (supposed) about 30; Sunday Scholars 50; Sunday School Library 60 volumes.

*Resolved*, That the next Annual Convention be holden at Trinity Church, Newport.

Thanks of the Convention were given to the President and Secretary, for their services during the present session.

Convention adjourned.

SAMUEL FULLER, jun., *Secretary*.

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## 1831.

The Annual Convention of the Prot. Epis. Church in R. I., convened in Trinity Church, Newport, on Tuesday, June 14th, 1831. Morning Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, and the Convention Sermon preached by the Rev. Dr. Crocker; after which the Communion was administered by the Rev. Mr. Wheaton.

After the close of the religious services, the Convention was organized, the Rev. Mr. Wheaton presiding, agreeably to an article of the Constitution, which directs that, in the absence of the Bishop, the Rector of the Church where the Convention is held, shall preside.

The following Clerical and Lay Delegates appeared and took their seats.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Ch., Newport.

The Rev. Mr. Crocker, D. D. Rector of St. John's Ch., Providence.

The Rev. Mr. Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Ch., Pawtucket.

The Rev. Mr. Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Ch., N. Kingston.

The Rev. Mr. Bristed, Rector of St. Michael's Ch., Bristol.

The Rev. Mr. Hathaway, Rector of St. Mark's Ch., Warren.

Trinity Church, Newport.—Messrs. Edward Brinley, Charles Collins, Stephen T. Northam, Samuel Whitehorn.

St. John's Church, Providence.—Alexander Jones, Wm. G. Goddard, Wm. E. Richmond, Joseph L. Tillinghast.

St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket.—David Lefavour, Loring Carpenter, George Mumford.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Wm. Pearce, Ephraim Munroe, John G. Harding.

St. Paul's Church, North Kingston.—Wm. A. Shaw, Joshua B. Rathbone.

Grace Church, Providence.—Benjamin F. Hallett, George S. Wardwell, Charles Cheney.

St. Mark's Church, Warren.—George Pearce, Geo. Munroe.

The Rev. Geo. W. Hathaway was chosen Secretary in place of the Rev. Mr. Fuller, removed from the Diocese.

*Voted*, That Clergymen of other Dioceses, and Candidates for Holy Orders be admitted to seats in this Convention

Agreeably to which, the Rev. Mr. S. Nash, of St. Albans, Vermont, and Messrs. Cooke, D'Wolf, and Batchelder, Candidates, took seats.

Treasurer's report of Missionary Fund was received, accepted, and directed to be recorded,—of which the following is a transcript.

*Dr, R. I. Epis. Church Missionary Society in account with Alexander Jones, Treasurer. Cr.*

| 1830.    |  | 1830.                                     |         |
|----------|--|---|---------|
| July 17. | To cash paid C. H. Alden, per order of the Standing Committee,       | \$173 17                                  |         |
| Aug. 3.  | To cash paid Dr. Crocker, per do.                                    | 25 00                                     |         |
| " 17.    | To cash paid Mr. Fuller, per do.                                     | 25 00                                     |         |
| 1831.    |  |   |         |
| June 9.  | To balance carried to new account,                                   | 54 38                                     |         |
|          |  |   |         |
| June 8.  | By balance on old account rendered Convention,                       |   | \$84 55 |
| June 8.  | By cash from Fem. Ep. So. St. John's Ch. auxiliary to State Society, |   | 35 00   |
| June 8.  | By cash from Fem. Ep. So. Wickford, auxiliary to State Society,      |   | 3 00    |
| July 6.  | By cash dividend Exchange Bank,                                      |   | 7 50    |
| July 20. | By " " deposit in Savings Institution, drawn out,                    |   | 100 00  |
| July 20. | By int. on ditto for four years,                                     |   | 23 00   |
| 1831.    |  |   |         |
| Jan. 10. | By dividend in Exchange Bank,  |   | 7 50    |
| June 9.  | By do. Fem. Miss. So. St. John's Ch.                                 |   | 17 00   |
|          |  |   |         |
|          |  | \$277 55                                  |         |
|          |  | Balance to credit in new account, \$54 38 |         |

Alexander Jones was re-elected Treasurer for the year ensuing.

*Voted*, That Messrs. Wm. E. Richmond, Benj. F. Hallet, and Jos. L. Tillinghast, be a Committee to write to England, to the proper organ of the Society, "for the propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," and ascertain from them, whether they would transfer to this Convention their right to certain Church lands in Washington Co. in this State.

The Rev. Mr. Bristed was appointed to deliver the next Convention Sermon.

The Rev. Dr. Crocker was appointed to preach a Missionary Sermon at the next Convention, and the Rev. Mr. Burge his substitute.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton was appointed to preach a Sermon of Sunday Schools, at the next Convention, and the Rev. Mr. Taft, his substitute.

*Voted*, That the next Annual Convention be held at St. Mark's Church, Warren.

The following persons were elected the Standing Committee, for the following year.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Dr. Crocker, Rev. Messrs Taft, Bristed, Burge, and Hathaway, of the Clergy, and Messrs. S. T. Northam, Newport, Alexander Jones, and Richmond Brownell, Providence, L. C. Richmond, Bristol, David Lefavour, Pawtucket, and George Pearce, Warren.

The Rev. Dr. Crocker, and the Rev. Messrs. Wheaton, Taft, and Bristed, and Messrs. Alexander Jones, Stephen T. Northam, John D'Wolf, jun., and Edward Walcott, were appointed Delegates to the General Convention.

Convention adjourned to meet the next morning at 8 o'clock.

In the evening, there was a Missionary Sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Taft.



Wednesday morning, at 8 o'clock, Convention re-assembled.

*Voted*, That Sec. of the Standing Committee, report to the Convention annually the doings of said Committee for the past year.

The Parochial Reports were then read, of which the following is an abstract.

|                                | Bap. | Mar. | Bur. | Con. | Com. add. | Wh. | No. of Com. |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|-----------|-----|-------------|
| Trinity Church, Newport.       | 11   | 2    | 24   | 22   | 10        |     | 126         |
| St. John's Church, Prov.       | 17   | 7    | 17   |      | 6         |     |             |
| St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket,  | 16   | 6    | 5    |      |           |     | 130         |
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol, | 20   | 8    | 8    | 9    | 39        |     | 229         |
| St. Paul's Church, N. King'n,  | 1    | 4    | 3    |      |           |     |             |
| Grace Church, Providence,      | 8    | 2    | 3    |      | 7         |     | 37          |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren,     | 7    | 3    | 2    |      | 7         |     | 12          |

The following is an abstract of the report of Sunday Schools, as contained in Parochial reports.

|                                | Library.     | Teachers. | Scholars. |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Trinity Church, Newport,       | 400          | 16        | 124       |
| St. John's Church, Providence. | (No report). |           |           |
| St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket,  | 250          |           | 150       |
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol, | 250          | 21        | 150       |
| St. Paul's Church, Wickford,   | (No School). |           |           |
| Grace Church, Providence,      | 60           | 6         | 45        |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren,     | 70           | 10        | 70        |

Convention adjourned to attend Divine Service.

Service and a Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Nash, of St. Albans, Vermont. Immediately after the Services closed, the Convention re-assembled, and proceeded to business.

*Voted*, That the Rev. Mr. Wheaton and Mr. John B. Francis be a Committee to inquire into the cause of the discontinuance of Public Worship in the parish of St. Paul's, at Tower Hill, South Kingston, and to report to the Standing Committee as soon as may be; and that said Standing Committee have power, and are hereby desired, immediately to adopt measures for the re-establishment of Episcopal worship at said Tower Hill.

The thanks of the Convention were voted to the Rev. Dr. Crocker, and Rev. Mr. Taft, for their Sermons.

*Resolved*, That no more such thanks be ever rendered to any preacher.

*Resolved*, That it be the duty of the Secretary of the Convention to have a copy of the Canons of the Church, always among the books and papers.

Adjourned *sine die*.

GEO. W. HATHAWAY, *Secretary*.

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## 1831.

### SPECIAL CONVENTION.

A Special Convention was held at St. Mark's Church, Warren, by order of the Standing Committee, on Friday, August 12th, 1831.

Morning Prayer was read by Rev. Mr. Wheaton, and a sermon preached by the Rev. Dr. Crocker, and the Holy Communion administered by the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Crocker.

After the services, proceeded to organize the Convention. The Rev. Mr. Hathaway presided, agreeably to a provision of the Constitution, that in the absence of the Bishop, the Rector of the Church in which the Convention is held, should act as chairman.

The Rev. Mr. Bristed was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

The following Clerical and Lay Delegates appeared and took their seats :—

Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rev. Messrs. Taft, Bristed, Burge, Hathaway, and Batchelder, of the Clergy.

Stephen T. Northam, Esq., of Trinity Ch., Newport, Alexander Jones, Wm. E. Richmond, Jos. L. Tillinghast, and Wm. G. Goddard, Esq'rs, St. John's Ch., Providence. Messrs. Jonathan Harding, Ephraim Munroe, and Lemuel C. Richmond, St. Michael's Ch., Bristol. Messrs. Edward S. Wilkinson, David Lefavour, Barney Merry, and John L. Wilkinson, St. Paul's Ch., Pawtucket. Messrs. Joshua B. Rathbone, David Updike Hagan, Beriah W. Reynolds, and Wm. A. Shaw, St. Paul's Ch., North Kingston. Mr. George S. Wardwell, and Dr. Richmond Brownell, Grace Ch., Providence. Nathan'l Phillips, Esq., and Messrs. John Trott, John R. Wheaton, and George Wheaton, St. Mark's Ch., Warren.

It was *Voted*, That the Clergymen of other Dioceses. present, and also the Candidates for Holy Orders in this State and others, be invited to take seats in this Convention.

Agreeably to this vote the Rev. Mr. West, of Taunton, and the Rev. Mr. Munroe, of Bridgewater, Mass., took seats. Also, Messrs. Golden Dearth, Ephraim Munroe, Erastus D'Wolf and Joseph M. Brown, Candidates in this State, and Mr. Washington Van Zandt, candidate in the Diocese of New York, took seats.

The Rev. Messrs. Wheaton, Crocker, and Bristed, and Jos. L. Tillinghast, Esq., were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the proposition of the Convention of Massachusetts respecting the division of the Diocese, and to report immediately after Divine Service in the afternoon,—to which time the Convention adjourned.

In the afternoon, Services were read by the Rev. Mr. Burge, and a sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Batchelder. After which, the Convention re-assembled; and

having heard the report of the Committee, and fully discussed the question, they passed the following resolution, viz .

*Resolved*, That this Convention, as at present advised, does not recommend a concurrence with the proposition of the Convention of Massachusetts, relative to the division of the Eastern Diocese, in the terms in which that proposition has been communicated to us.

Convention adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN BRISTED, *Sec., pro tem.*

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## 1832.

### SPECIAL CONVENTION.

A Special Convention was held in St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket, on Thursday, March 8th, 1832, at 10 o'clock, A. M., by order of the Standing Committee. Morning Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, and a Sermon preached by the Rev Mr. Haskins. The services being finished, proceeded to organize the Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Taft presided, agreeably to the provision in the Constitution, that in the absence of the Bishop, the Rector of the Church in which the Convention is held, shall preside.



*Present of the Clergy.*—The Rev. Dr. Crocker, the Rev Messrs. Taft, Bristed, Haskins, Batchelder, Brown, and Hathaway.

*Lay Delegates.*—From St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket.—Barney Merry, Peter R. Minard, Edward Walcott, and Alanson Thayer.

From St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Levi D'Wolf.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz:—That this Convention, having been officially informed that the Churches in Vermont are desirous of withdrawing from the Eastern Diocese, and the Constitution of said Diocese requiring our consent, it is therefore

*Resolved*, That we consent to their withdrawal.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of this Convention communicate the same to the Secretary of the Convention of the Church in Vermont.

*Voted*, That the next Annual Convention in June next, be held at St. Paul's Church, South Kingston.

Adjourned *sine die*.

GEO. W. HATHAWAY, *Secretary*.

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1832.

### ANNUAL CONVENTION.

The Annual Convention of the Prot. Epis. Ch. in Rhode-Island, met at St. Paul's Ch. South Kingston, on Tuesday, June 12th, 1832.

Morning Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, and the Convention Sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Bristed, after which the Holy Communion was administered by the Rev. Mr. Hathaway.

The religious Services being ended, proceeded to organize the Convention. The Bishop being absent, the Rev. Mr. Wheaton was appointed Chairman.

*Present.*—The Rev. Dr. Crocker, the Rev. Messrs Wheaton, Taft, Burge, Bristed, Hathaway, Batchelder, D'Wolf, and Brown, of the Clergy; and the following Lay Delegates, viz:

Alexander Jones, St. John's Ch., Providence.

Stephen H. Cahoone, Trinity Ch., Newport.

Wm. Pearse, and Ephraim Munroe, St. Michael's Ch., Bristol.

David Updike Hagan, Euclid Chadsey, Joshua B. Rathbone, and Wm. A. Shaw, St. Paul's Ch., North Kingston.

Danforth L. Peck, St. Paul's Ch., North Providence.

Resolved Waterman, Grace Ch., Providence.

Freeborn Sisson, George Pierce, and Dan'l B. Wheaton, St. Mark's Ch., Warren.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway was re-elected Secretary.

*Voted*, That any Candidates for Orders in this or other Dioceses be invited to honorary seats in this Convention.

When Mr. Asa Peckham, a candidate in this diocese, appeared and took a seat.

The Rev. Mr. Bristed, and Wm. A. Shaw were appointed a Committee on the admission of parishes.

Alexander Jones, Treasurer, made his annual report verbally. That the state of the Treasury is the same as when reported last year, except the addition of fifteen dollars received for dividends,—making the disposable

balance now in his hands to be 69 38-100 dollars, which report was accepted, and Mr. Jones re-elected Treasurer.

The Rev. Messrs. Bristed and Hathaway were appointed a Committee to prepare a report for the General Convention, of the State of the Church in Rhode Island.

The Convention then adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon, met according to adjournment.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton and Dr. Crocker were appointed a Committee on the report of the Committee of the Gen'l Convention, on the revision of the Canons.

The Committee on the admission of parishes report, That the proper documents required by the Canons had been submitted to them by *three* newly organized Churches, praying for admission to this Convention, viz : St. Paul's Ch., South Kingston, Trinity Ch., Pawtuxet, and St. James' Ch., Smithfield. Whereupon it was

*Voted*, That the above Churches be admitted accordingly.

John J. Watson and Sam'l Brown appeared and took seats as delegates from St. Paul's Ch., South Kingston.

The Rev. Mr. Hathaway was appointed to preach the next Annual Convention Sermon. Rev. Mr. Bristed, and Mr. Brown, his substitute, to preach the Missionary Sermon ; and the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, and Mr. Taft, his substitute, to preach the Sunday School Sermon.

The following persons were appointed delegates to the General Convention ; of the Clergy,—The Rev Dr.

Crocker, Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rev. Mr. Bristed, Rev. Mr. Taft; of the Laity,—Alexander Jones, Stephen T. Northam, Edward R. Walcott, Joseph J. Tillinghast,—with power to supply vacancies.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended by this Convention to the Trustees of Donations of the Prot. Epis. Ch. in the Eastern Diocese, that they appoint persons to make an examination into the circumstances of the disputed lands between St. Paul's Ch., N. Kingston and St. Paul's Ch., S. Kingston, in order to an equitable adjustment of the same between the two aforesaid Churches.

The following persons were chosen the Standing Committee for the year ensuing: of the Clergy,—The Rev. Mr. Wheaton, Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rev. Mr. Taft, Rev. Mr. Bristed, Rev. Mr. Burge, Rev. Mr. Hathaway; of the Laity,—Alexander Jones, Stephen T. Northam, Wm. Pearse, Richmond Brownell, George Pearse, Joshua B. Rathbone.

The Parochial reports were received and read, of which the following is an abstract.

St. John's Church, Providence.—Baptisms, (Adults, 15; Infants, 11,) 26; Communicants added, 25; Marriages, 5; Burials, 18; S. S. Scholars, 176; Teachers, 20; S. S. Library, 334.

Trinity Church, Newport.—Baptisms. (Adults, 3; Infants, 4) 7; Communicants, (3 added) 122; Marriages, 9; Burials, 14; S. S. Scholars, 136; Teachers, 17; S. S. Library, 450.

St. Michael's Church, Bristol.—Baptisms, 5, Infants, ; — Communicants, (9 added) 200; Marriages, 3; Burials, 12; S. S. Scholars, 180; Teachers, 25; S. S. Library, 280.

St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.—Baptisms, 9; Communicants, 130; Marriages, 12; Burials, 10; S. S. Scholars, 162; Teachers, 24.

St. Paul's Church, N. Kingston.—Baptisms, 2; Marriages, 4; Burials, 4; S. S. Scholars, 33; Teachers, 8.

Grace Church, Providence.—Baptisms, (Adults, 3; Infants, 5) 8; Communicants, (10 added) 41; Marriages, 1; Burials, 5; S. S. Scholars, 45; Teachers, 8.

St. Mark's Church, Warren.—Baptisms, (Adults, 6 ; Infants, 1,) 7 ; Communicants, (9 added,) 20 ; Marriages, 5 ; Burials, 6 ; S. S. Scholars, 80 ; Teachers, 9 S. S. Library, 137.

St. Paul's Church, S. Kingston. — Communicants, 5 ; S. S. Scholars, 35 ; Teachers, 5.

St. James' Church, Smithfield.—Marriage, 1 ; S. S. Scholars, 100 ; Teachers, 20.

Trinity Church, Pawtuxet.—S. S. Scholars, 25 ; Teachers, 5.

The Convention now resolved itself into the Missionary Society, agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution ; and after a discussion of the general objects of the Society, adjourned to meet next morning at 8 o'clock.

### *Wednesday Morning.*

According to adjournment, met at 8 o'clock.

The Committee on the report of the Committee of the General Convention on the revision of the Canons, reported it to be inexpedient for this Convention to take any measures thereupon, which report was accepted.

*Resolved*, That it be requested by this Convention that the reports of the several parishes be hereafter more full, and prepared with a view to publication.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary prepare an abstract of the proceedings and reports of this Convention for publication in the Episcopal Watchman and Episcopal Recorder.

*Resolved*, That the next Convention be held at St. Paul's Ch. North Kingston.

Adjourned *sine die*.

GEO. W. HATHAWAY,

*Sec'ry.*



*Rev Mr Balland*

JOURNAL *with the report*  
*of this year and*

OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE

*J. A. Clark*

# ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND,

HELD IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH KINGSTOWN ON TUES-  
DAY, JUNE 11TH, AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12TH,  
A. D. 1833.

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PROVIDENCE:  
MARSHALL & BROWN.



LIST OF THE  
CLERGY AND LAY DELEGATES,  
WHO COMPOSED  
THE CONVENTION.

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CLERGY.

The Rev. John Bristed, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Bristol County.

The Rev. Joseph M. Brown, Rector of St. Jame's Church, Smithfield, Providence County.

The Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Kingstown, Washington County.

The Rev. John A. Clark, Rector of Grace Church, Providence, Providence County.

The Rev. Nathan Bourne Crocker, D. D. Rector of St. Johns Church, Providence, Providence County.

The Rev. Erastus D'Wolf, Deacon Missionary at South Kingstown, Washington County.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren, Bristol County.

The Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence, Providence County.

The Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, Newport County.

The Rev. John West, Missionary at Newport, Newport County.—10.

### LAY DELEGATES.

*Bristol County.*—Bristol. St. Michael's Church—William Pearce, Lemuel C. Richmond, Nathaniel Bullock, George F. Usher.—Warren. St. Mark's Church—George Pierce.

*Newport County.*—Newport. Trinity Church—Stephen T. Northam. Zion's Church—Charles H. Mumford, Jacob Smith, William Walker.

*Providence County.*—Providence. St. John's Church—Alexander Jones, Austin Gurney. Grace Church—Resolved Waterman, William E. Richmond, Caleb Drown, George S. Wardwell.—North Providence. St. Paul's Church—William Field, Danforth L. Peck, George Mumford, George Arnold.—Smithfield. St. James' Church—Daniel Wilkinson.

*Washington County.*—North Kingstown. St. Paul's Church—Beriah W. Reynolds, Euclid Chadsey, David Updike Hagan, Joshua B. Rathbone.—South Kingstown. St. Paul's Church, John J. Watson, Benjamin Gardner, Samuel Brown.

The Rev. Sylvester Nash, of Vermont, not a member, attended the sitting.

Present—10 clerical members, and 27 lay members, representing 10 Parishes.

One clergyman, not a member, attended the sittings.

NORTH-KINGSTOWN, Tuesday, June 11, 1833.

This day being appointed by the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Rhode-Island, for the meeting of the Annual Convention of the said Church, the clergy of the State, and several lay delegates attended in St. Paul's Church, North-Kingstown, which had been previously appointed by the Standing Committee as the place of meeting, at half past 10 o'clock, P. M.

Morning prayers were read by the Rev. John A. Clark, Rector of Grace Church, Providence, and Rev. John West, Missionary, Newport, and the Convention sermon was preached by the Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren. The communion was then administered by the Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence, assisted by the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

After divine service, agreeable to the canon, requiring the Rector of the parish, in whose church the Convention is held, to act as President of the Convention, the Rev. Lemuel Burge, took the chair; and the list of clergy entitled to seats, being called over, agreeable to the canons, the following answered to their names, and took their seats:—

The Rev. John Bristed, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Bristol County; the Rev. Joseph M. Brown, Rector of St. James' Church, Smithfield, Providence County; the Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Kingstown, Washington County; the Rev. John A. Clark, Rector of Grace Church, Providence, Providence County; the Rev. Nathan Bourne Crocker, D. D., Rector of St. John's Church,



Providence, Providence County; the Rev. Erastus D'Wolf, Deacon, Missionary, at South Kingstown, Washington County; the Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren, Bristol County; the Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence, Providence County; the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, Newport County; the Rev. John West, Missionary, Newport, Newport County.

The following Lay Delegates presented certificates of their respective appointments and took their seats:

From St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Bristol county, William Pearse, Lemuel C. Richmond, Nathaniel Bullock, George F. Usher; from St. Mark's Church, Warren, George Pierce; from Trinity Church, Newport, Newport County, Stephen T. Northam; from St. John's Church, Providence, Providence county, Alexander Jones, Austin Gurney; from Grace Church, Providence, Resolved Waterman, William E. Richmond, Caleb Drown, George S. Wardwell; from St. Paul's Church, North Providence, William Field, Danforth L. Peck, George Mumford, George Arnold; from St. James' Church, Smithfield, Daniel Wilkinson; from St. Paul's Church, [North Kingstown, Beriah W. Reynolds, Euclid Chadsey, David Updike Hagan, Joshua B. Rathbone; from St. Paul's Church, South Kingstown, John J. Watson, Benjamin Gardner, Samuel Brown.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway, was chosen Secretary.

On motion, Resolved, that Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal church, and candidates for orders in this

church, who may be in the town of North Kingstown during the meeting of this Convention, and are not members thereof, be admitted to its sittings.

Agreeably to this Resolution, the Rev. Sylvester Nash of Vermont, attended.

On motion, Resolved, that a committee be appointed, to whom shall be referred the certificate of such incorporations of Churches as may be approved by this Convention.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway and William E. Richmond Esq. were appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to revise the Constitution of this Convention, and draft rules of order and Canons.

The Rev. Dr. Crocker and Rev. John West and William E. Richmond Esq. were accordingly appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to nominate members of the Standing Committee, and Delegates to the General Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Bristed, the Rev. Mr. Brown and George S. Wardwell Esq were accordingly appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a committee be appointed to report on the subject of organizing a Society, for the benefit of Widows and Orphans, of deceased Clergymen.

The Rev. Mr. Clark, the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, and Stephen T. Northam Esq. were accordingly appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to report on the subject of Sunday Schools.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton, the Rev. Mr. Taft, and Caleb Drown Esq. were accordingly appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that the proceedings of the last Convention be read immediately after the opening of the afternoon session.

The Convention adjourned, until 3 o'clock, in the afternoon.

**AFTERNOON, 3 o'clock.**

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The proceedings of the morning session, were then read and approved.

The Committee of Nominations reported as follows—

*The Standing Committee.*--The Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. John A. Clark, and Rev. George Taft, of the Clergy—Robert H. Ives, Richmond Brownell, M. D. and George Mumford, of the Laity.

The above report was accepted, and the persons named were appointed the Standing Committee.

*Delegates to the General Convention.*—Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. George Taft, Rev. John West, and Rev. John A. Clark, of the Clergy.—Stephen T. Northam, Alexander Jones, George S. Wardwell, and Edward S. Wilkinson, of the Laity.

The above report was accepted, and the persons named, were appointed delegates to the General Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton, as Chairman of the Committee on Sunday Schools, reported as follows—

That they find Sunday Schools established in most of the Parishes in this State, auxiliary to the Protestant Episcopal Sunday School State Society, and that this Society, is auxiliary to the General Protestant Episcopal Sunday School Union. And they recommend that a meeting of said State Society, be held during the sitting of this Convention, as provided in the Constitution thereof.

**SALMON WHEATON** Chairman.

On motion, resolved, that the forgoing report be accepted.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS, WERE THEN READ.

## ST. MICHAELS CHURCH BRISTOL

REV. JOHN BRISTED RECTOR.

The undersigned reports, that during the first seven months of the last conventional year, the parish of St. Michael in the town of Bristol seemed to be settling itself down into luke-warmness and worldliness; but during the last five months, through the blessing of God a better state of things has been exhibited. For several weeks meetings for religious worship were held every evening and well attended. At present the excitement is abated. But we hope the seriousness has not altogether subsided. The fruits of this partial and temporary awakening have been about thirty hopeful converts. Of which twenty have become communicants. The services on the Sunday, are prayers and preaching twice, and conference in the evening. On Monday evening recent converts meet for prayer, and reading the scriptures; on Tuesday evening, female communicants meet for the same purpose; on Wednesday evening a female Missionary Society meets, to work in aid of the R. I. clerical convocation, and other religious and charitable purposes; on thursday evening a Bible class is held at which a chapter is explained and written communications thereon received, read, and remarked on; on Friday evening the Sunday School teachers meet for mutual discussion and instruction; on Saturday evening a general conference meeting prepares those who attend for the solemn services of the Sanctuary. On the 20th

of April last, Bishop Griswold laid the corner stone of a new church in Bristol, to be built on the site of the old edifice. For the state of the Sunday school, reference is made to the report of its superintendent. Habitual parochial visitation from house to house, including every family in the parish binds together pastor, people, services, and efforts. The statistics of the parish are,

|                  |    |   |    |
|------------------|----|---|----|
| Baptisms—Infants | 4  | } | 16 |
| Adults           | 12 |   |    |
| Marriages        |    |   | 8  |
| Burials          |    |   | 14 |
| Confirmed        |    |   | 8  |

-Communicants added 20—removed 4

Deceased 4—joined 12—whole No. 217.

JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michaels  
Parish. Bristol R. I. June 11th 1833.

Bristol convocation money from June 1832 to June 1833.

|                   |             |   |  |
|-------------------|-------------|---|--|
| For Greek Mission | \$43        | } | of which \$20 paid Rev.<br>Mr. Batchelder and \$60<br>now ready for Treasurer. |
| R. I. Convocation | 80          |   |  |
|                   | <hr/> \$123 |   |  |

REPORT OF BRISTOL EPISCOPAL SUNDAY SCHOOL,  
JUNE 5, 1833.

There are belonging to the school 45 males, and 80 female scholars. Total 125.

There generally attends about 120 scholars, with 7 male and 17 female teachers.

Our studies are the American Sunday School Union Questions, portions of scripture and hymns committed to memory

There was in the past year, 1 teacher and 8 scholars professed religion.

BENJ. HALL, Superintendent.  
by GEO. B. MONRO, Assistant.



## ST. JAMES' CHURCH, WOONSOCKET FALLS.

REV. JOSEPH BROWN, RECTOR.

In February 1832, agreeably to the earnest request of several gentlemen of Woonsocket Falls, the Protestant Episcopal Convocation of Rhode-Island, *determined*, That a minister should be sent to officiate in that place. I immediately took up my residence among that people with a sincere desire to advance their best interests and to promote the glory of God. The set time to favor Zion had indeed come. The prosperity which has attended the undertaking and the happy results, far surpassing the anticipations of those who commenced the work strengthens the belief, that our motives were good. I found it had been the earnest prayer and anxious wish of many individuals that divine service might be regularly established. A room was fitted up to accommodate the people who manifested their regard for the Sabbath and their desire to hear the words of eternal life by their regular attendance on public worship. The congregations were large and remarkably attentive. In April a parish was organized and preparation made for the erection of a church.

In May 1833, a neat and beautiful edifice was completed. On the 16th of the same month it was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold. Its dimensions are 41 feet by 61—containing 58 pews. These were immediately sold, and let, and many more are wanted.

There are about 20 communicants. There have been 6 baptisms—4 confirmed—11 marriages—18 funerals.

I would remark here, that our labors were soon sec-

ended by faithful men of the Methodist and Baptist denomination. The latter of whom have commenced building a meeting-house. The good effects of Temperance associations, Tract distribution, and Sunday schools are plainly seen in this vicinity. Under the blessing of God they have been the means of much good.

Thus far has the Lord been pleased to crown our efforts with success, to him we pray for a continuance of the prosperity, and “not unto us, not unto us, but to *him* be all the glory.”

JOSEPH M. BROWN, Rector of St.  
James' Church, Woonsocket  
Falls, June 11, 1833

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## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-KINGSTOWN.

REV. LEMUEL BURGE, RECTOR.

The Rector of this church reports, that since the last meeting of the convention, the services of [the church have been duly celebrated on the Lord's day, and participated in by respectable and apparently devout congregations. Almost every Friday evening also, throughout the past year, has been celebrated in a similar manner. And some we hope and trust are benefitted by our labors. One has been baptized—two have been confirmed—three added to the communion—four marriages have been solemnized and five funerals attended. The Sunday school, having been lessened by the establishment of one in the Baptist Society, consists of twenty-six children; taught by two male and one fe-

male teachers. The Library of said school contains about fifty volumes of well selected books, from the Grand Union Depository.

On the whole, the Rector takes pleasure in stating that the condition of this particular branch of our Zion, is at this time, more interesting than it has been at any former period within his knowledge. The word preached, (although not as yet outwardly manifested altogether in the way we desire,) has evidently had an effect inwardly. And an abundant harvest we trust is now ripening, which will be gathered in God's own good time.

LEMUEL BURGE, Rector.

## GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

REV. JOHN A. CLARK, RECTOR.

In making my report to the Convention, it may not be improper for me to state, that it is only about seven months since I first took charge of the Parish of Grace Church, Providence. The Church edifice at this time was not ready for occupancy. After its completion and consecration, the pews were sold so advantageously as to constitute a fund adequate to liquidate all debts incurred from building the Church—the purchase of an elegant organ, and a commodious Rectory. The pews not sold were immediately rented: And what we have principally to regret now, is, that our borders are so straitened—the demand for seats being much greater than we can meet.

Certainly the highest commendation is due to the few individuals who, with limited means, and amid every

discouragement embarked in the enterprize of building this Church, and raising up this parish. The Lord has seen fit to crown their labors with entire success.

While we would cherish grateful emotions for the prosperity that has attended the temporal affairs of this Parish, we feel that we are still more deeply indebted to the great Head of the Church, for the multiplied tokens of kindness that we have received, in the effusion of the blessed Spirit—in the erection of a Spiritual Edifice among us, upon which is inscribed “*Holiness to the Lord.*”

There has been for many months a deep and increasing seriousness, which has resulted in a large accession to the body of our communicants. Though there has not been the slightest indication of a noisy or boisterous excitement, there has been going on in our midst a work, so distinctly marked by divine power, and characterized by the fruits of the Spirit, that all who have witnessed it, have been led to exclaim, “*Surely the Lord is in this place.*”

More than one hundred individuals have been added to the Redeemer’s fold since christmas, and I hope it will appear at the last, that their names are indeed written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

Our Sunday School is at present in a flourishing condition. At our commencement in the new Church there were not more than forty regular attendants, there are now rising of one hundred, and registered on the roll book, not less than one hundred and eighty.

The present number of teachers are twenty seven: ten male and seventeen female teachers. Connected with the Sunday School are a library of about 180 vols. 3 Bible Classes and 1 adult colored class. The system of

instruction pursued in our S. School is very much the same as that recommended by the general episcopal S. S. Union. In addition to the religious instruction delivered to the Sunday school, I have a large Bible class consisting of nearly two hundred members, and I have recently established a separate Bible class for the instruction of young ladies and a catechetical class designed particularly for the children of the parish. A missionary society has been organized, auxiliary to 'The Dom. and For. Miss. Soc. of Prot. Eps. Ch. in the U. S.' and measures are now in progress to raise funds to support one or two beneficiaries in the preparatory studies for the ministry. The ladies of the parish are also making efforts by their united industry to raise the means to spread the gospel more fully thro' the destitute parts of our own state. While we are thus able to give so favorable an account of the flourishing state of our parish we are deeply impressed with the truth, that all this is of the Lord's goodness, and that if he should withdraw from us the influences of his blessed spirit, we should speedily become like a barren and withered tree. Our prayer is "Behold, O God, our shield, and look upon the face of their anointed. Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion. Build thou the walls of Jerusalem."

The number of communicants when I took charge of Grace Church were 41. Since added 117—of these *five* have since deceased, and *three* removed, leaving as the present number 150.

|                              |    |   |          |
|------------------------------|----|---|----------|
| The adult Baptisms have been | 55 | } | Total 84 |
| Infant do                    | 29 |   |          |
| Marriages                    | 5  |   |          |
| Funerals                     | 7  |   |          |

J. A. CLARK, Rector of Grace Church, Prov.



## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

REV. N. B. CROCKER, D. D. RECTOR.

|                       |    |            |
|-----------------------|----|------------|
| Baptisms—Infants      | 11 | } Total 22 |
| Adults                | 11 |            |
| Admitted to communion | 12 |            |
| Buried                | 20 |            |
| Married               | 7  |            |

## REV. E. D. WOLF, MISSIONARY,

AT SOUTH KINGSTOWN, TOWER HILL.

I have preached twice each Sabbath during the past summer, and once in the winter. Our Church has been attended about as well as might be expected under existing circumstances. It will take some years to gather as large a congregation as the one that assembled from week to week immediately after the Church was consecrated. The causes of this indifference are too well known to this body to be repeated. But on the whole the cause of our adorable Savior is advancing in my congregation. The banner of the cross possesses a divine and heavenly charm. Souls we trust have been benefited here by messages of life and salvation. Although presented in weakness, they have been raised up in power. I will mention one instance. A man greatly advanced in age, was hopefully brought to see his lost and wretched condition by nature, and that his only refuge was in the lamb of God. He has been bap-

tised and confirmed. There are others that we hope will soon come to the holy ordinance of baptism. Our only hope is in the divine blessing, the power of the Holy Ghost to give success and efficacy to the mysteries of redemption. Our Sabbath School has commenced but is small. It will in all probability be considerably larger this year than last.

Baptisms 2—1 adult, 1 infant; marriages 2; deaths 7; funeral sermons 6.

Female Benevolent Society of St. Paul's, South-Kingstown, works once in two weeks.

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## ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, RECTOR.

Reports there have been during the past year 4 baptisms—1 adult and 3 infants; 15 marriages and 12 burials; 2 have been added to the communion, making the present number of communicants 22, besides 8 who were formerly of other denominations, but who now regularly worship and commune with us, making the whole number of communicants, confirmed and not confirmed 30. Although so little spiritual effect has apparently attended the ministry of the past year there has been very good attention on the part of the people, and a constant but gradual increase of the congregation, the number of families having during the three years of my ministry among them increased from forty to eighty-five.

The congregation has, within the past year, erected a beautiful enclosure around the church, and beautified

it with embankments and ornamental trees, making one of the most neat and beautiful church-yards in the country. The Ladies' Sewing Society have lately purchased a pair of elegant chairs and a neat marble font for the chancel, and have now in view to purchase a set of communion plate; after which they propose to devote the proceeds of their industry to missionary purposes.

Our Missionary Society have appropriated \$32 to the Convocation the present year, and will probably be able to do much more another year.

Our Sunday school consists of about 100 scholars, instructed by 4 male and 7 female teachers, and is in a flourishing state. The library contains 155 volumes of well selected books. Our schools ought to be much larger, and we trust will, when, with the divine blessing, we can impress the minds of parents with a true feeling of the vast importance to children of religious instruction, and also their awful responsibility in this respect, especially, when living as they do, where Sunday school instruction is so freely provided.

GEORGE W HATHAWAY, Rector.

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-PROVIDENCE

REV. GEORGE TAFT, RECTOR.

The Rector reports to the convention, communicants 115; baptisms 10; marriages 15; deaths 13; Sunday school scholars 100.

I report a smaller number of communicants this year than for two or three years past. During the last year three communicants have deceased. And in conse-

quence of temporal losses and reverses, a large number have been obliged to remove from this village. I am happy, however, to have it in my power to state, that they have been instrumental in establishing three new churches, the last year, in new and destitute places. These facts will account for the diminution of the communicants of my church. There is now a pleasing prospect in my parish of numbers being added to the communion of such as shall be saved. There is an increasing seriousness and attention to the subject of religion among the people. There have been some hopeful cases of conversion. And there are, at this time, candidates for admission to the communion, who, in the judgment of charity, have found their Savior precious to their souls.

The female members of my church have a weekly meeting for prayer that God would revive pure and undefiled religion in their hearts, and pour out his Holy Spirit upon the church and congregation—upon the village—upon the state—upon the whole earth. And they have found it good, for the space of four years, not to forsake the assembling of themselves together.

The female missionary society is actively engaged, laboring to procure funds for the convocation.

The Sunday school is well attended. And is superintended and instructed by those who are desirous of the temporal, spiritual and eternal welfare of the children committed to their charge.

GEORGE TAFT.

## TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT.

REV. S. WHEATON, RECTOR.

Baptisms—adults 10; children 5; total 15; marriages 2; funerals 23; added to the communion 16; present number of communicants 145; persons confirmed 15.

The Sunday school consists of 2 superintendents, 19 teachers, and 160 scholars. It has a library of 510 volumes.

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## ZION CHURCH, NEWPORT.

JOHN WEST, MINISTER.

Baptisms—adult 1; infant 3; total 4; communicants 18; confirmations 4. Easter collection \$7,62.

About the first of March last the minister of this new parish accepted the invitation of the Convocation of Rhode-Island to become their missionary for one year. At the request of the members of this parish and under the direction of the Convocation, I commenced my labors in this place. The parish was organized previously as is detailed in the documents accompanying their application to the convention to be received as a member of that body.

Public services on Sunday were commenced in the Court room of the State House on the 17th of March in which place they have been continued with some interruptions, and where it is proposed to continue them during the present season. A more private meeting is also holden one evening in the week for social conference and prayer in a lecture room. One afternoon in



the week is also devoted by the ladies Convocation Society to needle and fancy work for the benefit of the missionary cause, during which I pass an hour with them in reading and conversation and prayer. Preparations are in progress for establishing a Bible class and Sunday school. I have administered the communion once, and enrolled 18 communicants, 4 of whom are new members.

These several meetings are marked with a numerous and increasing attendance, and also, as far as I can learn, with a practical religious influence, that strongly confirms the propriety and utility of this new missionary enterprize. This confidence is increased by the generous approbation awarded by public sentiment, and, with two exceptions, by christians of every name, toward the establishment of a new Episcopal Church in Newport. By the more judicious and philanthropic members of society it is hailed as a valuable accession to the cause of religion in the happy influence it is calculated to exert not only in reference to the public, and the large body of existing strangers, but to the existing societies of christians.

Measures are in progress for erecting a church in a central situation. The subscription for this object has reached a sum which is deemed sufficient to justify the undertaking. The unavoidable expense of a building suitable for the place and prospects, and a site centrally located, will be considerable. But it is confidently believed that friends, both at home and abroad, will yet be raised up to carry to its prosperous completion a work which has been begun and thus far continued un-

der the smiles of Providence, and the hearty aid and approbation of the friends of Zion.

JOHN WEST, Missionary.

Newport, June 10th, 1833.

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On motion, resolved, that a Committee of publication be appointed.

The Rev. John A. Clark, Rev. George W. Hathaway, and George S. Wardwell, Esq. were appointed.

On motion, resolved, that a Committee be appointed to devise ways and means, for defraying the expenses of the publishing Committee.

Rev. John Bristed and Stephen T. Northam Esq. were appointed.

The Committee appointed on admission of Parishes &c. reported that they had examined the testimonials presented by Zions Church, Newport, and find them to be correct.

On motion; resolved, that Zions Church, Newport, Newport County, be admitted to the Convention.

The following persons presented their credentials, and were admitted as lay delegates from Zions Church, to this Convention—Charles H. Mumford, Jacob Smith and William Walker.

The committee appointed to draft rules of order, and canons, and revise the Constitution, submitted the following Rules of order, for the Convention.

(*See Rules of order,*) *Appendix.*

The same committee submitted the following canons for the use of this Convention.

(*See Canons,*) *Appendix.*

On motion, resolved, that the above report of canons be accepted and adopted by this Convention.

The same committee submitted the following amended Constitution.

(*See Constitution,*) *Appendix.*

The above Constitution was accepted and approved, and ordered to lay over till next Convention.

On motion, resolved, that the committee of publication publish in connection with the Journals of this Convention, the Rules of order and canons, now adopted, and the proposed Constitution, now approved.

On motion, resolved, that the committee be allowed to publish any number of the above, they may deem expedient.

The Convention now resolved itself into the Rhode-Island Missionary Society.

The Treasurer of the Society made a verbal Report, that the available amount of funds in his hands were \$27,63.

On motion, resolved, that a committee be appointed to call on the original donors, of the funds of the Missionary Society, and ascertain whether they are willing to give such funds for the use of the Convocation.

The Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. J. Bristed, Rev. J. A. Clark and George S. Wardwell, Esq. were appointed.

On motion, resolved, that the foregoing committee, examine the Constitution of the Missionary Society, and see what amendments (if any) are needed.

Alexander Jones Esq. was elected Treasurer for the ensuing year.

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY, THEN RESOLVED ITSELF INTO CONVENTION.

Leave of absence was granted to William Pearse, Lemuel C. Richmond, Nathaniel Bullock and George F. Usher, of Bristol—Mr. Watson and Mr. Gardner of South Kingstown—George Mumford and George Arnold, of North Providence, and Charles Mumford of Newport.

The Convention then adjourned until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY MORNING JUNE, 12.

The Convention met agreeable to adjournment.

Morning Prayer was read by Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

The Secretary being absent, the Rev. John West was chosen Secretary pro. tem.

The list of members was then called, and the proceedings of yesterday read, and approved.

The Committee appointed for devising means for the relief of widows and orphans of deceased clergymen, then made their report.

(See Appendix:)

On motion, resolved, that the report be accepted.

On motion, resolved, that a committee be appointed to carry into effect the plan of the Report, and procure an act of incorporation.

The Rev. John A. Clark, Rev. George Taft, Rev. George W. Hathaway, William E. Richmond, Stephen T. Northam and Resolved Waterman, were appointed

The committee appointed to devise ways and means for defraying the expenses of publication, made the following Report.

The committee appointed to assess on the different Episcopal parishes an amount to defray the probable expences of printing &c. of this State convention, agreebly to the 8th canon as reported to this convention, have performed that duty, and do report the following sums.

|                                    |   |   |         |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---------|
| Trinity Church, Newport            | - | - | \$10,00 |
| Zion's do do                       | - | - | 6,25    |
| St. Michael's do Bristol           | - | - | 7,50    |
| St. Mark's do Warren               | - | - | 5,00    |
| St. John's do Providence           | - | - | 15,00   |
| Grace do do                        | - | - | 15,00   |
| St. Paul's do North Providence     | - | - | 6,25    |
| St. James' do Smithfield           | - | - | 5,00    |
| St. Paul's Church, North Kingstown | - | - | 2,50    |
| St. Paul's do South Kingstown      | - | - | 1,25    |
|                                    |   |   | <hr/>   |
|                                    |   |   | \$73,75 |

ALL OF WHICH IS SUBMITTED BY  
 JOHN BRISTED,  
 STEPHEN T. NORTHAM, } Committee.

On motion, resolved, that the above report be accepted.



The convention resolved itself in the Missionary Society.

The committee appointed to examine the constitution of the Missionary society, submitted the following report:

"The committee to whom was referred the constitution of the Missionary Society, beg leave to report, that they have examined the same, and find in it one article which constitutes the standing committee of the state, a board of Managers, in whom is vested, the disposition of its annual income. In reference to this article, your committee would respectfully recommend the following resolution as a substitute.

*Resolved*—That the fifth article of the constitution of the Rhode Island Missionary Society be changed, and that in lieu of the standing committee, the clerical convocation of this state be the board of Managers, and have the disposition of the funds of said Society.

NATHAN B. CROCKER, Chairman."

On motion, resolved, that the report of the committee be accepted, and the proposed amendment adopted.

The Missionary Society, resolved itself into the convention.

On motion, resolved, that the standing committee be requested to appoint the next meeting of the convention in Grace Church, Providence.

On motion, resolved, that the Missionary and Sunday School sermons be preached, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, during the sitting of the convention, and that the convention continue its session until Wednesday evening.

The Rev. John West, and Rev. John Bristed his substitute, were appointed to preach the next convention sermon.

The Rev. George Taft, and Rev. Dr. Crocker his substitute, to preach the Missionary Sermon.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway, and Rev. Joseph M. Brown his substitute, to preach the Sunday School sermon.

On motion, Resolved, that a vote of thanks be tendered to the inhabitants of North Kingston for their kindness and hospitality during the sitting of the convention.

Attest: GEO. W. HATHAWAY, Sec'y.



## APPENDIX.

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RULES OF ORDER, CANONS AND  
AMENDED CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
IN THE STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND.  
REPORTED BY COMMITTEE.

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### RULES OF ORDER.

1. Every stated Convention shall be opened with prayer, the communion and a sermon; the preacher having been previously appointed by the Convention.

2. The morning service of the Church, or a special service appointed by the Bishop, shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention.

3. When the President takes the chair no member shall continue standing, or shall afterward stand up except to address the chair.

4. No member shall absent himself from the house unless he have leave or be unable to attend.

5. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the house, he shall rise and with due respect address himself to the president, and confine himself strictly to the point in debate.

6. When two members chance to rise at the same time, the president shall determine to whom the preference shall be given; and on all questions of order the president shall decide—subject to an appeal to the house.

7. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave.

8. No motion shall be acted upon until seconded and, when required, reduced to writing.

9. While the president is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse to the interruption of the house.

10. Every member who is in the house, when any question is put, shall on a division be counted, unless, he be personally interested in the question, or excused by the president. No member personally interested in any question, shall without permission, act in any capacity while it is under deliberation.

11. When a motion is under consideration no other motion shall be made, except to postpone, to amend, to divide, or to commit.

12. A motion for amendment or postponement shall be considered as the previous question, and be decided before the original motion.

13. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order and shall be decided without debate.

14. The yeas and nays shall be called and entered on the minutes when required by one fifth of the members present.

15. At the request of the president, or on motion, the Convention may resolve itself into a committee of the whole.

16. All elections when required by two members shall be by ballot.

17. When the lay members vote by congregation it shall also be by ballot.

18. All other questions shall be decided viva voce, or by hand vote, unless a ballot be called for by two members.

19. The sittings of the convention shall be open to all persons who choose to attend, unless otherwise ordered by the house.

20. After the first day the minutes of the preceding day shall be read each morning at the opening of the convention, and, if necessary, corrected; and before

the rising of the convention the whole proceedings of the session shall be read.

21. When the house is about to rise every member shall keep his seat until the president leaves his chair.

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## CANONS.

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### CANON 1.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE.

There shall be a Standing Committee consisting of three clergymen and three laymen, to be elected at each stated meeting of the Convention, who shall keep regular minutes of their proceedings subject to the inspection of the convention, and shall continue in office until the election of a new committee. A majority shall be a quorum.

### CANON 2.

#### TESTIMONIAL OF DELEGATES.

Lay delegates to the convention shall present testimonials of their election which shall be in conformity with the mode prescribed by the parish they represent, and signed by the parish clerk, or secretary of the vestry.

### CANON 3.

#### TESTIMONIAL OF NEW PARISHES.

Delegates from new parishes applying for admission into the convention shall present a certificate signed by the parish clerk, or the secretary of the vestry, declaring that certain individuals have united in the formation of a parish, elected wardens and vestrymen, and other necessary officers, and adopted and taken measures to become incorporated under a charter formed in

accordance with the principles and usages of the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States and that they accede to the General and State Constitution and Canons.

#### CANON 4.

##### PROVISION FOR PRINTING PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

The committee of the convention shall when directed cause to be published, from the funds of the convention, the proceedings of the stated meetings of this body together with a list of the ministers of the church residing within the State, annexing the names of their respective cures, or stations, or if those who have no stated cure, or station, the place of residence; and also the constitution, canons and rules of order.

#### CANON 5.

##### NEGLECT OF PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

In order to secure a full and accurate view of the state of the church, in case the requisitions of the 51st general canon on this subject are not complied with by the minister or other proper authority of any parish, it shall be the duty of the convention to cause inquiry to be made into its condition.

#### CANON 6.

##### OFFENCES FOR WHICH MINISTERS SHALL BE TRIED AND PUNISHED.

Disorderly, scandalous and immoral conduct, neglect of duty, engaging in any worldly avocations, palpably incompatible with the clerical office, and the due discharge of pastoral duty, disregard of the constitution and canons of the general and state convention, a continued non-attendance at the annual convention of the church in this State, disseminating or countenancing opinions contrary to the doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, are offences for which a clergyman ought to be censured and for which when accused, he ought to be brought to trial.

#### CANON 7.

If any clergyman of this church offend in any one or more

of the instances enumerated in the foregoing canon, complaint may be made thereof by any presbyter to the annual convention; and if, in the opinion of a majority of the presbyters present there shall be sufficient cause for said complaint, it shall be their duty to furnish the accused with a copy of the charge or charges, specifying a time, not short of thirty days, when, and place where he shall appear to answer to the same. No layman, however, shall act as advocate for either party on the trial, and if the major part of the presbyters present at the trial, after hearing the evidence, shall judge the accused person guilty of said charge or charges, their decision shall be made known to the Bishop, and he shall pronounce judgment accordingly.

#### CANON 8.

To defray the contingent expenses of the convention, a sum sufficient for this purpose shall be assessed upon the several parishes in proportion to the salaries of the respective ministers; for the payment of which several sums, each minister shall be made responsible.

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## PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, IN THE STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND.

This church as a constituent part of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and also by conventional agreement of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese, accedes to the general constitution of this church, and to the particu-



lar constitution of this Diocese and acknowledges their authority.

#### ARTICLE 1.

There shall be a stated Convention of the Protestant Episcopal church in this State on the second Tuesday in June, in each year, alternately in Providence and Newport, in such parish as shall be determined by the Convention.

#### ARTICLE 2.

After divine service, the President and Secretary of the preceding convention shall take their places, when it shall be the duty of the Secretary to call the names of the clergy, on the catalogue, and to receive and read the certificates of the lay delegates. The President and Secretary for the ensuing year shall then be chosen, and the minutes of the preceding convention shall be read, and the necessary committees appointed.

#### ARTICLE 3.

The convention shall be composed of the officiating ministers settled in the parishes in this State, and also of such ministers as are employed as instructors in any incorporated seminary of learning in this State, and of missionaries officiating within this State under the direction of the ecclesiastical authority of the State; and of lay members, consisting of one or more delegates not exceeding four from each parish, which shall have been recognized by the convention, duly chosen by the vestry or congregation.

#### ARTICLE 4.

New parishes shall be admitted into union with this convention, on presenting to the convention written evidence, under the authority of the wardens and vestry, that they are duly organized, and accede to the constitution and canons of the general convention and also of the convention of this State.

#### ARTICLE 5.

The Bishop shall preside in the convention; but when absent the president shall be chosen by the convention.

#### ARTICLE 6.

A secretary shall be chosen upon the assembling of the State Convention from among the members thereof

who shall remain in office until the meeting of the next convention, and until the appointment of a successor. His duty shall be to take minutes of their proceedings, to preserve their journals and records; to attest the public acts of the body, and faithfully to deliver into the hands of his successor all books and papers relative to the concerns of the convention which may have been put into his possession. It shall also be his duty to give notice to each minister of the time and place appointed for the meeting of the succeeding convention.

#### ARTICLE 7.

The members of the Convention present on due notification, and being duly organized shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. And in all matters which shall come before the convention the members shall deliberate in one body; and, in voting, shall vote by individuals. But if in any case it be required by any member, the two orders shall vote separately, and in such case the laity shall vote by congregations and the concurrence of a majority of each order shall be necessary to constitute a decision.

#### ARTICLE 8.

Canons for the government of the church, and rules of order for the conducting of business may be adopted from time to time by the convention.

#### ARTICLE 9.

The mode of altering this constitution shall be as follows: A proposition of amendment shall be introduced in writing and considered in the convention, and if approved of, shall lie over to the next convention, and if again approved of in that convention by a majority of the two orders voting thereon separately, the change shall take place, and the constitution so altered shall be valid and obligatory.

*Report of the Committee for devising means for the relief of  
Widows &c. of deceased Clergymen.*

YOUR COMMITTEE BEG LEAVE TO REPORT,

That, as ministers of the Gospel from the very duties to which they devote themselves, are necessarily cut off from those secular pursuits by which they might accumulate property, and make provision for the future subsistence of their families, and their salaries frequently being scarcely adequate to meet their current expenses, they thus at the close of a long and useful life often find themselves in destitute circumstances, and are obliged to leave their families totally unprovided for, it is deemed expedient to organize a Society, and, as soon as may be, obtain for it an act of incorporation, entitled "The Corporation for the relief of widows, and children of Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Rhode Island."

### CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. There shall be a yearly meeting of the Society, for the choice of its officers, to hear the annual report of the Board of Managers, and transact other business, to be holden at the place of, and on the Wednesday next after, the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State. Special meetings *may* be called by the Board of Managers, and *shall* be called on the written request of five members, made to the Secretary, who shall give at least ten days notice of the time and place of meeting in a public newspaper, or written personal notice to each member by mail.

ARTICLE 2. At the annual meeting, or if not then chosen, at some special meeting, there shall be chosen a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and three Directors, who shall constitute a Board of Managers and hold their offices until others shall have been chosen in their places.

ARTICLE 3. The Board of Managers shall have power to fill all vacancies in the offices aforesaid until the next meeting of the Society, and the custody, control, management and disposal of all the society's property. It shall be their duty to invest the funds in loans at interest, secured by mortgage on real property of unquestionable title, the value of which shall be double the amount loaned; and from time to time to reinvest such portions of the interest as shall be added to the funds in like manner. An entire statement of the accounts, funds securities and property shall be made in writing at every annual meeting, and also at any special meeting, when required by a majority of the members present. The Board shall require sufficient bond and surety from the Treasurer for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him; at least once in every year, and as much oftener as they may think expedient, shall audit and settle accounts and shall have the general superintendence of the Society's concerns; but shall do nothing repugnant to its votes or Bye-Laws. A majority of said Board shall be a quorum for business.

ARTICLE 4. Contributors to the funds of the Society may become members thereof, on being admitted thereto by a majority of the members present at any meeting.

ARTICLE 5. The annual contribution of a clergyman shall not be less than eight dollars, nor that of a layman less than three. But any lay contributor, elected a member, shall become a life member on the payment of twenty five dollars, once for all. The yearly contributions of the Clergy shall be eight, sixteen or twenty four dollars.

ARTICLE 6. Annuities shall be paid to the widows and children of clerical contributors, only; and shall be five times the annual contributions of such contributors respectively, subject, however to the conditions and restrictions hereinafter contained.

ARTICLE 7. Each contributor shall abide by the rate or class of contribution which he shall have first chosen, unless he shall change into another class on such terms as shall be prescribed by the Board of Managers or the bye-laws of the Society; and each shall pay his annual contribution to the Treasurer on or before the Wednesday next following the second Tuesday in June, in each year, under the penalty of fifty *per centum* on the amount of such contribution. If any contributor shall neglect to pay his contribution for three successive years, all his previous contributions shall be forfeited to the funds of the Society.

ARTICLE 8. Every yearly contributor, being a Clergyman, who shall marry more than once, shall pay one years contribution extraordinary on every such marriage.

ARTICLE 9. If the husband or father of any person or persons entitled to an annuity on this plan shall not have paid five annual contributions, then such person or persons shall receive only ten *per centum* per annum for thirteen years on the whole amount paid.

ARTICLE 10. If any contributor shall have paid for five years or any number of years exceeding five and less than fifteen, the annuitants shall receive only half the annuity of the rate or class subscribed to by the deceased, until such time as the yearly deduction of half the annuity, added to the payments made by the deceased, shall (exclusive of interest) make a sum in the fund equal to the sum of fifteen annual payments in the class to which the deceased belonged; which partial annuities, payable agreeably to this article, shall be proportioned between the widow and children as hereafter fixed in respect to full annuities; to wit:

ARTICLE 11. If there be no children, the widow of every contributor, if less than fifteen payments shall have been made by the deceased, shall receive the whole annual sum due by the last preceding article: and if fifteen such payments shall have been made complete by the deceased, and he have continued the payment of contributions during his life, the widow shall receive the whole annuity on the husband's contributions during her widowhood, and if she marry again, she shall from the time of such marriage, receive only half such annuity during her natural life.

ARTICLE 12. If there be a child and no widow, such child shall be entitled to the whole or partial annuity for thirteen years, agreeably to the foregoing articles; but if there be more than one child and no wid-



ow, the annuity, whether whole or partial, shall be equally divided among them, to be laid out, if they are minors, in their education or apprenticeship, with the advice and approbation of such executors or guardians as the father shall have nominated; but if none shall have been nominated, then in such manner, for the benefit of the child or children as the Board of Managers shall direct.

ARTICLE 13. If there be a widow and one child, the annuity, whether whole or partial, shall be equally divided between them, under the limitations aforesaid; and if there be a widow and two or more children, she shall have one third during her widowhood, or one sixth during her natural life if she should marry a second time; and the remainder for thirteen years, shall be laid out for the use of the children, as aforesaid.

ARTICLE 14. After the annuities chargeable on the funds shall have been paid, one half of the surplus product of the fund shall be divided among all the widows and children of contributors, for the term that their respective annuities shall continue payable, in proportion to their respective annuities, according to the foregoing articles; and the remainder of such surplus shall be added to the funds and invested.

ARTICLE 15. No Clergyman, not a resident of this State, shall be admitted to the Society. If any Clergyman, a member thereof, shall remove from the State before he shall have paid five annual contributions, the sum by him already paid may be withdrawn if he desires to withdraw it. In such case his membership shall cease, and his family shall derive no benefit from the funds. If any Clergyman, having made five or more annual contributions, shall leave the State, he may continue his connection with the Society, and entitle his family to the benefit of its funds by continuing his annual contributions.

ARTICLE 16. The Society may provide by its bye-laws for the receipt of a sum in gross, in lieu of all annual contributions by Clergymen, on such terms, conditions and restrictions as shall seem proper and reasonable. It may, also, by the votes of a majority of all its clerical members, alter any of the preceding articles of this Constitution; but no alteration so made shall diminish the right of any Clergyman, widow or child, existing at the time thereof, without his or her consent, legally given therefor.

JOHN A. CLARK, Chairman of the Committee.

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## NOTICE.

The next Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State, will meet on the second Tuesday in June, 1834, in Grace Church, Providence.

By order of the Standing Committee,

J. A. CLARK, Sec'y pro tem.





JOURNAL  
OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF THE  
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
IN THE STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND,  
HELD IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH KINGSTOWN TUES-  
DAY, JUNE 11TH, AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12TH,  
A. D. 1833.

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PROVIDENCE:  
MARSHALL & BROWN.



LIST OF THE  
CLERGY AND LAY DELEGATES,  
WHO COMPOSED  
THE CONVENTION.

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CLERGY.

The Rev. John Bristed, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Bristol County.

The Rev. Joseph M. Brown, Rector of St. James' Church, Smithfield, Providence County.

The Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Kingstown, Washington County.

The Rev. John A. Clark, Rector of Grace Church, Providence, Providence County.

The Rev. Nathan Bourne Crocker, D. D., Rector of St. John's Church, Providence, Providence County.

The Rev. Erastus D'Wolf, Deacon, Missionary at South Kingstown, Washington County.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren, Bristol County.

The Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence, Providence County.

The Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, Newport County.

The Rev. John West, Missionary at Newport, Newport County.—10.

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### LAY DELEGATES.

*Bristol County*—Bristol. St. Michael's Church—William Pearse, Lemuel C. Richmond, Nathaniel Bullock, George F. Usher.—Warren. St. Mark's Church—George Pierce.

*Newport County*—Newport. Trinity Church—Stephen T. Northam. Zion's Church—Charles H. Mumford, Jacob Smith, William Walker.

*Providence County*—Providence. St. John's Church—Alexander Jones, Austin Gurney. Grace Church—Resolved Waterman, William E. Richmond, Caleb Drown, George S. Wardwell.—North Providence. St. Paul's Church—William Field, Danforth L. Peck, George Mumford, George Arnold.—Smithfield. St. James' Church—Daniel Wilkinson.

*Washington County*—North Kingstown. St. Paul's Church—Beriah W. Reynolds, Euclid Chadsey, David Updike Hagan, Joshua B. Rathbone.—South Kingstown. St. Paul's Church, John J. Watson, Benjamin Gardner, Samuel Brown.

The Rev. Sylvester Nash, of Vermont, not a member, attended the sitting.

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Present—10 clerical members, and 27 lay members, representing 10 Parishes.

One clergyman, not a member, attended the sittings.



NORTH-KINGSTOWN, Tuesday, June 11, 1833.

This day being appointed by the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Rhode-Island, for the meeting of the Annual Convention of the said Church, the clergy of the State, and several lay delegates attended in St. Paul's Church, North-Kingstown, which had been previously appointed by the Standing Committee as the place of meeting, at half past 10 o'clock, A. M.

Morning prayers were read by the Rev. John A. Clark, Rector of Grace Church, Providence, and Rev. John West, Missionary, Newport, and the Convention sermon was preached by the Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren. The communion was then administered by the Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence, assisted by the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

After divine service, agreeable to the canon, requiring the Rector of the parish, in whose church the Convention is held, to act as President of the Convention, the Rev. Lemuel Burge, took the chair; and the list of clergy entitled to seats, being called over, agreeable to the canons, the following answered to their names, and took their seats:—

The Rev. John Bristed, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Bristol County; the Rev. Joseph M. Brown, Rector of St. James' Church, Smithfield, Providence County; the Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Kingstown, Washington County; the Rev. John A. Clark, Rector of Grace Church, Providence, Providence County; the Rev. Nathan Bourne Crocker, D. D., Rector of St. John's Church,

Providence, Providence County; the Rev. Erastus D'Wolf, Deacon, Missionary, at South Kingstown, Washington County; the Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren, Bristol County; the Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence, Providence County; the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, Newport County; the Rev. John West, Missionary, Newport, Newport County.

The following Lay Delegates presented certificates of their respective appointments and took their seats:

From St. Michael's Church, Bristol, Bristol county, William Pearse, Lemuel C. Richmond, Nathaniel Bullock, George F. Usher; from St. Mark's Church, Warren, George Pierce; from Trinity Church, Newport, Newport County, Stephen T. Northam; from St. John's Church, Providence, Providence County, Alexander Jones, Austin Gurney; from Grace Church, Providence, Resolved Waterman, William E. Richmond, Caleb Drown, George S. Wardwell; from St. Paul's Church, North Providence, William Field, Danforth L. Peck, George Mumford, George Arnold; from St. James' Church, Smithfield, Daniel Wilkinson; from St. Paul's Church, North Kingstown, Beriah W. Reynolds, Euclid Chadsey, David Updike Hagan, Joshua B. Rathbone; from St. Paul's Church, South Kingstown, John J. Watson, Benjamin Gardner, Samuel Brown.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway, was chosen Secretary.

On motion, Resolved, that Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal church, and candidates for orders in this

church, who may be in the town of North Kingstown during the meeting of this Convention, and are not members thereof, be admitted to its sittings.

Agreeably to this Resolution, the Rev. Sylvester Nash of Vermont, attended.

On motion, Resolved, that a committee be appointed, to whom shall be referred the certificate of such incorporations of Churches as may be approved by this Convention.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway and William E. Richmond Esq. were appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to revise the Constitution of this Convention, and draft rules of order and Canons.

The Rev. Dr. Crocker and Rev. John West and William E. Richmond Esq. were accordingly appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to nominate members of the Standing Committee, and Delegates to the General Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Bristed, the Rev. Mr. Brown and George S. Wardwell Esq. were accordingly appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a committee be appointed to report on the subject of organizing a Society, for the benefit of Widows and Orphans, of deceased Clergymen.

The Rev. Mr. Clark, the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, and Stephen T. Northam Esq. were accordingly appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to report on the subject of Sunday Schools.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton, the Rev. Mr. Taft, and Caleb Drown Esq. were accordingly appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that the proceedings of the last Convention be read immediately after the opening of the afternoon session.

The Convention adjourned, until 3 o'clock, in the afternoon.

#### AFTERNOON, 3 o'clock.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The proceedings of the morning session, were then read and approved.

The Committee of Nominations reported as follows—

*The Standing Committee.*—The Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. John A. Clark, and Rev. George Taft, of the Clergy—Robert H. Ives, Richmond Brownell, M. D. and George Mumford, of the Laity.

The above report was accepted, and the persons named were appointed the Standing Committee.

*Delegates to the General Convention.*—Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. George Taft, Rev. John West, and Rev. John A. Clark, of the Clergy.—Stephen T. Northam, Alexander Jones, George S. Wardwell, and Edward S. Wilkinson of the Laity.

The above report was accepted, and the persons named, were appointed delegates to the General Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Wheaton, as Chairman of the Committee on Sunday Schools, reported as follows—

That they find Sunday Schools established in most of the Parishes in this State, auxiliary to the Protestant Episcopal Sunday School State Society, and that this Society, is auxiliary to the General Protestant Episcopal Sunday School Union. And they recommend that a meeting of said State Society, be held during the sitting of this Convention, as provided in the Constitution thereof.

SALMON WHEATON Chairman.

On motion, resolved, that the foregoing report be accepted.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS, WERE THEN READ.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BRISTOL.

REV. JOHN BRISTED, RECTOR.

The undersigned reports, that during the first seven months of the last conventional year, the parish of St. Michael in the town of Bristol seemed to be settling itself down into luke-warmness and worldliness; but during the last five months, through the blessing of God a better state of things has been exhibited. For several weeks meetings for religious worship were held every evening and well attended. At present the excitement is abated. But we hope the seriousness has not altogether subsided. The fruits of this partial and temporary awakening have been about thirty hopeful converts. Of which twenty have become communicants. The services on the Sunday, are prayers and preaching twice, and conference in the evening. On Monday evening recent converts meet for prayer, and reading the scriptures; on Tuesday evening, female communicants meet for the same purpose; on Wednesday evening a female Missionary Society meets, to work in aid of the R. I. clerical convocation, and other religious and charitable purposes; on Thursday evening a Bible class is held at which a chapter is explained and written communications thereon received, read and remarked on; on Friday evening the Sunday School teachers meet for mutual discussion and instruction; on Saturday evening a general conference meeting prepares those who attend for the solemn services of the Sanctuary. On the 20th



of April last, Bishop Griswold laid the corner stone of a new church in Bristol, to be built on the site of the old edifice. For the state of the Sunday school, reference is made to the report of its superintendent. Habitual parochial visitation from house to house, including every family in the parish binds together pastor, people, services, and efforts. The statistics of the parish are,

|                  |    |   |    |
|------------------|----|---|----|
| Baptisms—Infants | 4  | } | 16 |
| Adults           | 12 |   |    |

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Marriages | 8 |
|-----------|---|

|         |    |
|---------|----|
| Burials | 14 |
|---------|----|

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Confirmed | 8 |
|-----------|---|

Communicants added 20—removed 4.

Deceased 4—joined 12—whole No. 217.

JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's  
Parish. Bristol R. I. June 11th 1833.

Bristol convocation money from June 1832 to June 1833.

|                   |             |   |  |
|-------------------|-------------|---|--|
| For Greek Mission | \$43        | } | of which \$20 paid Rev.<br>Mr. Batchelder and \$60<br>now ready for Treasurer. |
| R. I. Convocation | 80          |   |  |
|                   | <hr/> \$123 |   |  |

REPORT OF BRISTOL EPISCOPAL SUNDAY SCHOOL,  
JUNE 5, 1833.

There are belonging to the school 45 males, and 80 female scholars. Total 125.

There generally attends about 120 scholars, with 7 male and 17 female teachers.

Our studies are the American Sunday School Union Questions, portions of scripture and hymns committed to memory.

There has in the past year, 1 teacher and 8 scholars professed religion.

BENJ. HALL, Superintendent.  
by GEO. B. MONRO, Assistant.

## ST. JAMES' CHURCH, WOONSOCKET FALLS.

REV. JOSEPH BROWN, RECTOR.

In February, 1832, agreeably to the earnest request of several gentlemen of Woonsocket Falls, the Protestant Episcopal Convocation of Rhode-Island, *determined*, That a minister should be sent to officiate in that place. I immediately took up my residence among that people with a sincere desire to advance their best interests and to promote the glory of God. The set time to favor Zion had indeed come. The prosperity which has attended the undertaking and the happy results, far surpassing the anticipations of those who commenced the work strengthens the belief, that our motives were good. I found it had been the earnest prayer and anxious wish of many individuals that divine service might be regularly established. A room was fitted up to accommodate the people who manifested their regard for the Sabbath and their desire to hear the words of eternal life by their regular attendance on public worship. The congregations were large and remarkably attentive. In April a parish was organized and preparation made for the erection of a church.

In May 1833, a neat and beautiful edifice was completed. On the 16th of the same month it was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold. Its dimensions are 41 feet by 61—containing 58 pews. These were immediately sold, and let, and many more are wanted.

There are about 20 communicants. There have been 6 baptisms—4 confirmed—11 marriages—18 funerals.

I would remark here, that our labors were soon sec-

ended by faithful men of the Methodist and Baptist denomination. The latter of whom have commenced building a meeting-house. The good effects of Temperance associations, Tract distribution, and Sunday schools are plainly seen in this vicinity. Under the blessing of God they have been the means of much good.

Thus far has the Lord been pleased to crown our efforts with success, to him we pray for a continuance of the prosperity, and “not unto us, not unto us, but to *him* be all the glory.”

JOSEPH M. BROWN, Rector of St.  
James' Church, Woonsocket  
Falls, June 11, 1833

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## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-KINGSTOWN.

REV. LEMUEL BURGE, RECTOR.

The Rector of this church reports, that since the last meeting of the convention, the services of the church have been duly celebrated on the Lord's day, and participated in by respectable and apparently devout congregations. Almost every Friday evening also, throughout the past year, has been celebrated in a similar manner. And some we hope and trust are benefited by our labors. One has been baptized—two have been confirmed—three added to the communion—four marriages have been solemnized and five funerals attended. The Sunday school, having been lessened by the establishment of one in the Baptist Society, consists of twenty-six children; taught by two male and one fe-

male teachers. The Library of said school contains about fifty volumes of well selected books, from the Grand Union Depository.

On the whole, the Rector takes pleasure in stating that the condition of this particular branch of our Zion, is at this time, more interesting than it has been at any former period within his knowledge. The word preached, (although not as yet outwardly manifested altogether in the way we desire,) has evidently had an effect inwardly. And an abundant harvest we trust is now ripening, which will be gathered in God's own good time.

LEMUEL BURGE, Rector.

## GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

REV. JOHN A. CLARK, RECTOR.

In making my report to the Convention, it may not be improper for me to state, that it is only about seven months since I first took charge of the Parish of Grace Church, Providence. The Church edifice at this time was not ready for occupancy. After its completion and consecration, the pews were sold so advantageously as to constitute a fund adequate to liquidate all debts incurred from building the Church—the purchase of an elegant organ, and a commodious Rectory. The pews not sold were immediately rented. And what we have principally to regret now, is, that our borders are so straitened—the demand for seats being much greater than we can meet.

Certainly the highest commendation is due to the few individuals who, with limited means, and amid every

discouragement embarked in the enterprize of building this Church, and raising up this parish. The Lord has seen fit to crown their labors with entire success.

While we would cherish grateful emotions for the prosperity that has attended the temporal affairs of this Parish, we feel that we are still more deeply indebted to the great Head of the Church, for the multiplied tokens of kindness that we have received, in the effusion of the blessed Spirit—in the erection of a Spiritual Edifice among us, upon which is inscribed “*Holiness to the Lord.*”

There has been for many months a deep and increasing seriousness, which has resulted in a large accession to the body of our communicants. Though there has not been the slightest indication of a noisy or boisterous excitement, there has been going on in our midst a work, so distinctly marked by divine power, and characterized by the fruits of the Spirit, that all who have witnessed it, have been led to exclaim, “*Surely the Lord is in this place.*”

More than one hundred individuals have been added to the Redeemer's fold since christmas, and I hope it will appear at the last, that their names are indeed written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Our Sunday School is at present in a flourishing condition. At our commencement in the new Church there were not more than forty regular attendants, there are now rising of one hundred, and registered on the roll book, not less than one hundred and eighty.

The present number of teachers are twenty-seven: ten male and seventeen female teachers. Connected with the Sunday School are a library of about 180 vols. 3 Bible Classes and 1 adult colored class. The system of



instruction pursued in our S. School is very much the same as that recommended by the general episcopal S. S. Union. In addition to the religious instruction delivered to the Sunday school, I have a large Bible class consisting of nearly two hundred members, and I have recently established a separate Bible class for the instruction of young ladies and a catechetical class designed particularly for the children of the parish. A missionary society has been organized, auxiliary to 'The Dom. and For. Miss. Soc. of Prot. Eps. Ch. in the U. S.' and measures are now in progress to raise funds to support one or two beneficiaries in the preparatory studies for the ministry. The ladies of the parish are also making efforts by their united industry to raise the means to spread the gospel more fully thro' the destitute parts of our own state. While we are thus able to give so favorable an account of the flourishing state of our parish we are deeply impressed with the truth, that all this is of the Lord's goodness and that if he should withdraw from us the influences of his blessed spirit, we should speedily become like a barren and withered tree. Our prayer is, "Behold, O God, our shield, and look upon the face of their anointed. Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion. Build thou the walls of Jerusalem."

The number of communicants when I took charge of Grace Church were 41. Since added 117—of these *five* have since deceased, and *three* removed, leaving as the present number 150.

|                              |    |             |
|------------------------------|----|-------------|
| The adult Baptisms have been | 55 | } Total 84. |
| Infant do                    | 29 |             |
| Marriages                    | 5  |             |
| Funerals                     | 7  |             |

J. A. CLARK, Rector of Grace Church, Prov.

## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

REV. N. B. CROCKER, D. D. RECTOR.

|                       |    |             |
|-----------------------|----|-------------|
| Baptisms—Infants      | 11 | } Total 22. |
| Adults                | 11 |             |
| Admitted to communion | 12 |             |
| Buried                | 20 |             |
| Married               | 7  |             |

REV. E. D. WOLF, MISSIONARY,

AT SOUTH KINGSTOWN, TOWER HILL.

I have preached twice each Sabbath during the past summer, and once in the winter. Our Church has been attended about as well as might be expected under existing circumstances. It will take some years to gather as large a congregation as the one that assembled from week to week immediately after the Church was consecrated. \* The causes of this indifference are too well known to this body to be repeated. But on the whole the cause of our adorable Saviour is advancing in my congregation. The banner of the cross possesses a divine and heavenly charm. Souls we trust have been benefited here by messages of life and salvation. Although presented in weakness, they have been raised up in power. I will mention one instance. A man & greatly advanced in age, was hopefully brought to see his lost and wretched condition by nature, and that his only refuge was in the lamb of God. He has been bap-

tised and confirmed. There are others that we hope will soon come to the holy ordinance of baptism. Our only hope is in the divine blessing, the power of the Holy Ghost to give success and efficacy to the mysteries of redemption. Our Sabbath School has commenced but is small. It will in all probability be considerably larger this year than last.

Baptisms 2—1 adult, 1 infant; marriages 2; deaths 7; funeral sermons 6.

Female Benevolent Society of St. Paul's South-Kingstown, works once in two weeks.

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## ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, RECTOR.

Reports there have been during the past year 4 baptisms—1 adult and 3 infants; 15 marriages and 12 burials; 2 have been added to the communion, making the present number of communicants 22, besides 8 who were formerly of other denominations, but who now regularly worship and commune with us, making the whole number of communicants, confirmed and not confirmed 30. Although so little spiritual effect has apparently attended the ministry of the past year there has been very good attention on the part of the people, and a constant but gradual increase of the congregation, the number of families having during the three years of my ministry among them increased from forty to eighty-five.

The congregation has, within the past year, erected a beautiful enclosure around the church, and beautified

it with embankments and ornamental trees, making one of the most neat and beautiful church-yards in the country. The Ladies' Sewing Society have lately purchased a pair of elegant chairs and a neat marble font for the chancel, and have now in view to purchase a set of communion plate; after which they propose to devote the proceeds of their industry to missionary purposes.

Our Missionary Society have appropriated \$32 to the Convocation the present year, and will probably be able to do much more another year.

Our Sunday school consists of about 100 scholars, instructed by 4 male and 7 female teachers, and is in a flourishing state. The library contains 155 volumes of well selected books. Our schools ought to be much larger, and we trust will, when, with the divine blessing, we can impress the minds of parents with a true feeling of the vast importance to children of religious instruction, and also their awful responsibility in this respect, especially, when living as they do, where Sunday school instruction is so freely provided.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector.

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-PROVIDENCE.

REV. GEORGE TAFT, RECTOR.

The Rector reports to the convention, communicants, 15; baptisms 10; marriages 15; deaths 13; Sunday school scholars 100.

I report a smaller number of communicants this year than for two or three years past. During the last year three communicants have deceased. And in conse-

quence of temporal losses and reverses, a large number have been obliged to remove from this village. I am happy, however, to have it in my power to state, that they have been instrumental in establishing three new churches, the last year, in new and destitute places. These facts will account for the diminution of the communicants of my church. There is now a pleasing prospect in my parish of numbers being added to the communion of such as shall be saved. There is an increasing seriousness and attention to the subject of religion among the people. There have been some hopeful cases of conversion. And there are, at this time, candidates for admission to the communion, who, in the judgment of charity, have found their Saviour precious to their souls.

The female members of my church have a weekly meeting for prayer that God would revive pure and undefiled religion in their hearts, and pour out his Holy Spirit upon the church and congregation—upon the village—upon the state—upon the whole earth. And they have found it good, for the space of four years, not to forsake the assembling of themselves together.

The female missionary society is actively engaged, laboring to procure funds for the convocation.

The Sunday school is well attended. And is superintended and instructed by those who are desirous of the temporal, spiritual and eternal welfare of the children committed to their charge.

GEORGE TAFT.



## TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT.

REV. S. WHEATON, RECTOR.

Baptisms—adults 10; children 5; total 15; marriages 2; funerals 23; added to the communion 16; present number of communicants 145; persons confirmed 15.

The Sunday school consists of 2 superintendents, 19 teachers, and 160 scholars. It has a library of 510 volumes.

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## ZION CHURCH, NEWPORT.

JOHN WEST, MINISTER.

Baptisms—adult 1; infant 3; total 4; communicants 18; confirmations 4. Easter collection \$7.62.

About the first of March last the minister of this new parish accepted the invitation of the Convocation of Rhode-Island to become their missionary for one year. At the request of the members of this parish and under the direction of the Convocation, I commenced my labors in this place. The parish was organized previously as is detailed in the documents accompanying their application to the convention to be received as a member of that body.

Public services on Sunday were commenced in the Court room of the State House on the 17th of March in which place they have been continued with some interruptions, and where it is proposed to continue them during the present season. A more private meeting is also holden one evening in the week for social conference and prayer in a lecture room. One afternoon in

the week is also devoted by the Ladies' Convocation Society to needle and fancy work for the benefit of the missionary cause, during which I pass an hour with them in reading and conversation and prayer. Preparations are in progress for establishing a Bible class and Sunday school. I have administered the communion once, and enrolled 18 communicants, 4 of whom are new members.

These several meetings are marked with a numerous and increasing attendance, and also, as far as I can learn, with a practical religious influence, that strongly confirms the propriety and utility of this new missionary enterprise. This confidence is increased by the generous approbation awarded by public sentiment, and, with two exceptions, by Christians of every name, toward the establishment of a new Episcopal Church in Newport. By the more judicious and philanthropic members of society it is hailed as a valuable accession to the cause of religion in the happy influence it is calculated to exert not only in reference to the public, and the large body of existing strangers, but to the existing societies of Christians.

Measures are in progress for erecting a church in a central situation. The subscription for this object has reached a sum which is deemed sufficient to justify the undertaking. The unavoidable expense of a building suitable for the place and prospects, and a site centrally located, will be considerable. But it is confidently believed that friends, both at home and abroad, will yet be raised up to carry to its prosperous completion a work which has been begun and thus far continued un-

der the smiles of Providence, and the hearty aid and approbation of the friends of Zion.

JOHN WEST, Missionary.

Newport, June 10th, 1833.

On motion, resolved, that a Committee of publication be appointed.

The Rev. John A. Clark, Rev. George W. Hathaway, and George S. Wardwell, Esq. were appointed.

On motion, resolved, that a Committee be appointed to devise ways and means, for defraying the expenses of the publishing Committee.

Rev. John Bristed and Stephen T. Northam, Esq. were appointed.

The Committee appointed on admission of Parishes, &c., reported that they had examined the testimonials presented by Zion's Church, Newport, and find them to be correct.

On motion, resolved, that Zion's Church, Newport, Newport County, be admitted to the Convention.

The following persons presented their credentials, and were admitted as lay delegates from Zion's Church, to this Convention—Charles H. Mumford, Jacob Smith and William Walker.

The committee appointed to draft rules of order, and canons, and revise the Constitution, submitted the following Rules of order, for the Convention.

*(See Rules of Order,) Appendix.*

The same committee submitted the following canons for the use of this Convention.

*(See Canons,) Appendix.*

On motion, resolved, that the above report of canons be accepted and adopted by this Convention.

The same committee submitted the following amended Constitution.

*(See Constitution,) Appendix.*

The above Constitution was accepted and approved, and ordered to lay over till next Convention.

On motion, resolved, that the committee of publication publish in connection with the Journals of this Convention, the Rules of order and canons, now adopted, and the proposed Constitution, now approved.

On motion, resolved, that the committee be allowed to publish any number of the above, they may deem expedient.

The Convention now resolved itself into the Rhode-Island Missionary Society.

The Treasurer of the Society made a verbal Report, that the available amount of funds in his hands were \$27.63.

On motion, resolved, that a committee be appointed to call on the original donors, of the funds of the Missionary Society, and ascertain whether they are willing to give such funds for the use of the Convocation.

The Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., Rev. J. Bristed, Rev. J. A. Clark and George S. Wardwell, Esq., were appointed.

On motion, resolved, that the foregoing committee, examine the Constitution of the Missionary Society, and see what amendments (if any) are needed.

Alexander Jones, Esq., was elected Treasurer for the ensuing year.

#### THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY, THEN RESOLVED ITSELF INTO CONVENTION.

Leave of absence was granted to William Pearse, Lemuel C. Richmond, Nathaniel Bullock and George F. Usher, of Bristol—Mr. Watson and Mr. Gardner of South Kingstown—George Mumford and George Arnold, of North Providence, and Charles Mumford, of Newport.

The Convention then adjourned until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

#### WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 12.

The Convention met agreeable to adjournment.

Morning Prayer was read by Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

The Secretary being absent, the Rev. John West was chosen Secretary pro tem.

The list of members was then called, and the proceedings of yesterday read, and approved.

The Committee appointed for devising means for the relief of widows and orphans of deceased clergymen, then made their report.

(See *Appendix*.)

On motion, resolved, that the report be accepted.

On motion, resolved, that a committee be appointed to carry into effect the plan of the Report, and procure an act of incorporation.

The Rev. John A. Clark, Rev. George Taft, Rev. George W. Hathaway, William E. Richmond, Stephen T. Northam and Resolved Waterman, were appointed.

The committee appointed to devise ways and means for defraying the expenses of publication, made the following Report.

The committee appointed to assess on the different Episcopal parishes an amount to defray the probable expenses of printing, &c. of this State Convention, agreeably to the 8th canon as reported to this convention, have performed that duty, and do report the following sums:

|                    |                 |                   |   |         |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|---------|
| Trinity Church,    | Newport,        | -                 | - | \$10.00 |
| Zion's             | do              | do                | - | 6.25    |
| St. Michael's      | do              | Bristol,          | - | 7.50    |
| St. Mark's         | do              | Warren,           | - | 5.00    |
| St. John's         | do              | Providence,       | - | 15.00   |
| Grace              | do              | do.               | - | 15.00   |
| St. Paul's         | do              | North Providence, | - | 6.25    |
| St. James'         | do              | Smithfield,       | - | 5.00    |
| St. Paul's Church, | North Kingstown | -                 |   | 2.50    |
| St. Paul's         | do              | South Kingstown,  | - | 1.25    |
|                    |                 |                   |   | <hr/>   |
|                    |                 |                   |   | \$73.75 |

ALL OF WHICH IS SUBMITTED BY

JOHN BRISTED,  
STEPHEN T. NORTHAM, } Committee.

On motion, resolved, that the above report be accepted.



The convention resolved itself in the Missionary Society.

The committee appointed to examine the constitution of the Missionary society, submitted the following report :

“ The committee to whom was referred the constitution of the Missionary Society, beg leave to report, that they have examined the same, and find in it one article which constitutes the standing committee of the state, a board of Managers, in whom is vested, the disposition of its annual income. In reference to this article, your committee would respectfully recommend the following resolution as a substitute :

“ *Resolved*—That the fifth article of the constitution of the Rhode Island Missionary Society be changed, and that in lieu of the standing committee, the clerical convocation of this state be the board of Managers, and have the disposition of the funds of said Society.

NATHAN B. CROCKER, Chairman.”

On motion, resolved, that the report of the committee be accepted, and the proposed amendment adopted.

The Missionary Society resolved itself into the convention.

On motion, resolved, that the standing committee be requested to appoint the next meeting of the convention in Grace Church, Providence.

On motion, resolved, that the Missionary and Sunday School sermons be preached, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, during the sitting of the convention, and that the convention continue its session until Wednesday evening.

The Rev. John West, and Rev. John Bristed his substitute, were appointed to preach the next convention sermon.

The Rev. George Taft, and Rev. Dr. Crocker his substitute, to preach the Missionary Sermon.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway, and Rev. Joseph M. Brown his substitute, to preach the Sunday School sermon.

On motion, Resolved, that a vote of thanks be tendered to the inhabitants of North Kingstown for their kindness and hospitality during the sitting of the convention.

Attest : GEO. W. HATHAWAY, *Sec'y*.

## APPENDIX.

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### RULES OF ORDER, CANONS AND AMENDED CONSTITUTION

OF THE

### PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND.

REPORTED BY COMMITTEE.

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#### RULES OF ORDER.

1. Every stated Convention shall be opened with prayer, the communion and a sermon; the preacher having been previously appointed by the Convention.

2. The morning service of the Church, or a special service appointed by the Bishop, shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention.

3. When the President takes the chair no member shall continue standing, or shall afterward stand up except to address the chair.

4. No member shall absent himself from the house unless he have leave or be unable to attend.

5. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the house, he shall rise and with due respect address himself to the president, and confine himself strictly to the point in debate.

6. When two members chance to rise at the same time, the president shall determine to whom the preference shall be given; and on all questions of order the president shall decide—subject to an appeal to the house.

7. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave.

8. No motion shall be acted upon until seconded and, when required, reduced to writing.

9. While the president is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse to the interruption of the house.

10. Every member who is in the house, when any question is put, shall on a division be counted, unless, he be personally interested in the question, or excused by the president. No member personally interested in any question, shall without permission, act in any capacity while it is under deliberation.

11. When a motion is under consideration no other motion shall be made, except to postpone, to amend, to divide, or to commit.

12. A motion for amendment or postponement shall be considered as the previous question, and be decided before the original motion.

13. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order and shall be decided without debate.

14. The yeas and nays shall be called and entered on the minutes when required by one-fifth of the members present.

15. At the request of the president, or on motion, the Convention may resolve itself into a committee of the whole.

16. All elections when required by two members shall be by ballot.

17. When the lay members vote by congregation it shall also be by ballot.

18. All other questions shall be decided viva voce, or by hand vote, unless a ballot be called for by two members.

19. The sittings of the convention shall be open to all persons who choose to attend, unless otherwise ordered by the house.

20. After the first day the minutes of the preceding day shall be read each morning at the opening of the convention, and, if necessary, corrected; and before

the rising of the convention the whole proceedings of the session shall be read.

21. When the house is about to rise every member shall keep his seat until the president leaves his chair.

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## CANONS.

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### CANON 1.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE.

There shall be a Standing Committee consisting of three clergymen and three laymen, to be elected at each stated meeting of the Convention, who shall keep regular minutes of their proceedings subject to the inspection of the convention, and shall continue in office until the election of a new committee. A majority shall be a quorum.

### CANON 2.

#### TESTIMONIAL OF DELEGATES.

Lay delegates to the convention shall present testimonials of their election which shall be in conformity with the mode prescribed by the parish they represent, and signed by the parish clerk, or secretary of the vestry.

### CANON 3.

#### TESTIMONIAL OF NEW PARISHES.

Delegates from new parishes applying for admission into the convention shall present a certificate signed by the parish clerk, or the secretary of the vestry, declaring that certain individuals have united in the formation of a parish, elected wardens and vestrymen, and other necessary officers, and adopted and taken measures to become incorporated under a charter formed in

accordance with the principles and usages of the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States and that they accede to the General and State Constitution and Canons.

#### CANON 4.

##### PROVISION FOR PRINTING PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

The committee of the convention shall when directed cause to be published, from the funds of the convention, the proceedings of the stated meetings of this body together with a list of the ministers of the church residing within the State, annexing the names of their respective cures, or stations, or if those who have no stated cure, or station, the place of residence; and also the constitution, canons and rules of order.

#### CANON 5.

##### NEGLECT OF PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

In order to secure a full and accurate view of the state of the church, in case the requisitions of the 51st general canon on this subject are not complied with by the minister or other proper authority of any parish, it shall be the duty of the convention to cause inquiry to be made into its condition.

#### CANON 6.

##### OFFENCES FOR WHICH MINISTERS SHALL BE TRIED AND PUNISHED.

Disorderly, scandalous and immoral conduct, neglect of duty, engaging in any worldly avocations, palpably incompatible with the clerical office, and the due discharge of pastoral duty, disregard of the constitution and canons of the general and state convention, a continued non-attendance at the annual convention of the church in this State, disseminating or countenancing opinions contrary to the doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, are offences for which a clergyman ought to be censured and for which when accused, he ought to be brought to trial.

#### CANON 7.

If any clergyman of this church offend in any one or more



of the instances enumerated in the foregoing canon, complaint may be made thereof by any presbyter to the annual convention; and if, in the opinion of a majority of the presbyters present there shall be sufficient cause for said complaint, it shall be their duty to furnish the accused with a copy of the charge or charges, specifying a time, not short of thirty days, when, and place where he shall appear to answer to the same. No layman, however, shall act as advocate for either party on the trial, and if the major part of the presbyters present at the trial, after hearing the evidence, shall judge the accused person guilty of said charge or charges, their decision shall be made known to the Bishop, and he shall pronounce judgment accordingly.

#### CANON 8.

To defray the contingent expenses of the convention, a sum sufficient for this purpose shall be assessed upon the several parishes in proportion to the salaries of the respective ministers; for the payment of which several sums, each minister shall be made responsible.

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## PROPOSED CONSTITUTION

OF THE

## PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

IN THE STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND.

This church as a constituent part of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and also by conventional agreement of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese, accedes to the general constitution of this church, and to the particu-

lar constitution of this Diocese and acknowledges their authority.

#### ARTICLE 1.

There shall be a stated Convention of the Protestant Episcopal church in this State on the second Tuesday in June, in each year, alternately in Providence and Newport, in such parish as shall be determined by the Convention.

#### ARTICLE 2.

After divine service, the President and Secretary of the preceding convention shall take their places, when it shall be the duty of the Secretary to call the names of the clergy, on the catalogue, and to receive and read the certificates of the lay delegates. The President and Secretary for the ensuing year shall then be chosen, and the minutes of the preceding convention shall be read, and the necessary committees appointed.

#### ARTICLE 3.

The convention shall be composed of the officiating ministers settled in the parishes in this State, and also of such ministers as are employed as instructors in any incorporated seminary of learning in this State; and of missionaries officiating within this State under the direction of the ecclesiastical authority of the State; and of lay members, consisting of one or more delegates not exceeding four from each parish, which shall have been recognized by the convention, duly chosen by the vestry or congregation.

#### ARTICLE 4.

New parishes shall be admitted into union with this convention, on presenting to the convention written evidence, under the authority of the wardens and vestry, that they are duly organized, and accede to the constitution and canons of the general convention and also of the convention of this State.

#### ARTICLE 5.

The Bishop shall preside in the convention; but when absent the president shall be chosen by the convention.

#### ARTICLE 6.

A secretary shall be chosen upon the assembling of the State Convention from among the members thereof

who shall remain in office until the meeting of the next convention, and until the appointment of a successor. His duty shall be to take minutes of their proceedings, to preserve their journals and records; to attest the public acts of the body, and faithfully to deliver into the hands of his successor all books and papers relative to the concerns of the convention which may have been put into his possession. It shall also be his duty to give notice to each minister of the time and place appointed for the meeting of the succeeding convention.

#### ARTICLE 7.

The members of the Convention present on due notification, and being duly organized shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. And in all matters which shall come before the convention the members shall deliberate in one body; and, in voting, shall vote by individuals. But if in any case it be required by any member, the two orders shall vote separately, and in such case the laity shall vote by congregations and the concurrence of a majority of each order shall be necessary to constitute a decision.

#### ARTICLE 8.

Canons for the government of the church, and rules of order for the conducting of business may be adopted from time to time by the convention.

#### ARTICLE 9.

The mode of altering this constitution shall be as follows: A proposition of amendment shall be introduced in writing and considered in the convention, and if approved of, shall lie over to the next convention, and if again approved of in that convention by a majority of the two orders voting thereon separately, the change shall take place, and the constitution so altered shall be valid and obligatory.

*Report of the Committee for devising means for the relief of  
Widows &c. of deceased Clergymen.*

YOUR COMMITTEE BEG LEAVE TO REPORT,

That, as ministers of the Gospel from the very duties to which they devote themselves, are necessarily cut off from those secular pursuits by which they might accumulate property, and make provision for the future subsistence of their families, and their salaries frequently being scarcely adequate to meet their current expenses, they thus at the close of a long and useful life often find themselves in destitute circumstances, and are obliged to leave their families totally unprovided for, it is deemed expedient to organize a Society, and, as soon as may be, obtain for it an act of incorporation, entitled, "The Corporation for the relief of widows, and children of Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Rhode Island."

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. There shall be a yearly meeting of the Society for the choice of its officers, to hear the annual report of the Board of Managers, and transact other business, to be holden at the place of, and on the Wednesday next after, the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State. Special meetings *may* be called by the Board of Managers, and *shall* be called on the written request of five members made to the Secretary, who shall give at least ten days notice of the time and place of meeting in a public newspaper, or written personal notice to each member by mail.

ARTICLE 2. At the annual meeting, or if not then chosen, at some special meeting, there shall be chosen a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and three Directors, who shall constitute a Board of Managers and hold their offices until others shall have been chosen in their places.

ARTICLE 3. The Board of Managers shall have power to fill all vacancies in the offices aforesaid until the next meeting of the Society, and the custody, control, management and disposal of all the society's property. It shall be their duty to invest the funds in loans at interest, secured by mortgage on real property of unquestionable title, the value of which shall be double the amount loaned; and from time to time to reinvest such portions of the interest as shall be added to the funds in like manner. An entire statement of the accounts, funds, securities and property shall be made in writing at every annual meeting, and also at any special meeting, when required by a majority of the members present. The Board shall require sufficient bond and surety from the Treasurer for the faithful discharge of the trust

reposed in him; at least once in every year, and as much oftener as they may think expedient, shall audit and settle accounts and shall have the general superintendence of the Society's concerns; but shall do nothing repugnant to its votes or By-Laws. A majority of said Board shall be a quorum for business.

ARTICLE 4. Contributors to the funds of the Society may become members thereof, on being admitted thereto by a majority of the members present at any meeting.

ARTICLE 5. The annual contribution of a clergyman shall not be less than eight dollars, nor that of a layman less than three. But any lay contributor, elected a member, shall become a life member on the payment of twenty-five dollars, once for all. The yearly contributions of the Clergy shall be eight, sixteen or twenty-four dollars.

ARTICLE 6. Annuities shall be paid to the widows and children of clerical contributors, only; and shall be five times the annual contributions of such contributors respectively, subject, however to the conditions and restrictions hereinafter contained.

ARTICLE 7. Each contributor shall abide by the rate or class of contribution which he shall have first chosen, unless he shall change into another class on such terms as shall be prescribed by the Board of Managers or the by-laws of the Society; and each shall pay his annual contribution to the Treasurer on or before the Wednesday next following the second Tuesday in June, in each year, under the penalty of fifty *per centum* on the amount of such contribution. If any contributor shall neglect to pay his contribution for three successive years, all his previous contributions shall be forfeited to the funds of the Society.

ARTICLE 8. Every yearly contributor, being a Clergyman, who shall marry more than once, shall pay one year's contribution extraordinary on every such marriage.

ARTICLE 9. If the husband or father of any person or persons entitled to an annuity on this plan shall not have paid five annual contributions, then such person or persons shall receive only ten *per centum* per annum for thirteen years on the whole amount paid.

ARTICLE 10. If any contributor shall have paid for five years or any number of years exceeding five and less than fifteen, the annuitants shall receive only half the annuity of the rate or class subscribed to by the deceased, until such time as the yearly deduction of half the annuity, added to the payments made by the deceased, shall (exclusive of interest) make a sum in the fund equal to the sum of fifteen annual payments in the class to which the deceased belonged; which partial annuities, payable agreeably to this article, shall be proportioned between the widow and children as hereafter fixed in respect to full annuities; to wit.:



ARTICLE 11. If there be no children, the widow of every contributor, if less than fifteen payments shall have been made by the deceased, shall receive the whole annual sum due by the last preceding article; and if fifteen such payments shall have been made complete by the deceased, and he have continued the payment of contributions during his life, the widow shall receive the whole annuity on the husband's contributions during her widowhood, and if she marry again, she shall from the time of such marriage, receive only half such annuity during her natural life.

ARTICLE 12. If there be a child and no widow, such child shall be entitled to the whole or partial annuity for thirteen years, agreeably to the foregoing articles; but if there be more than one child and no widow, the annuity, whether whole or partial, shall be equally divided among them, to be laid out, if they are minors, in their education or apprenticeship, with the advice and approbation of such executors or guardians as the father shall have nominated; but if none shall have been nominated, then in such manner, for the benefit of the child or children as the Board of Managers shall direct.

ARTICLE 13. If there be a widow and one child, the annuity, whether whole or partial, shall be equally divided between them, under the limitations aforesaid; and if there be a widow and two or more children, she shall have one-third during her widowhood, or one sixth during her natural life if she should marry a second time; and the remainder for thirteen years, shall be laid out for the use of the children, as aforesaid.

ARTICLE 14. After the annuities chargeable on the funds shall have been paid, one-half of the surplus product of the fund shall be divided among all the widows and children of contributors, for the term that their respective annuities shall continue payable, in proportion to their respective annuities, according to the foregoing articles; and the remainder of such surplus shall be added to the funds and invested.

ARTICLE 15. No Clergyman, not a resident of this State, shall be admitted to the Society. If any Clergyman, a member thereof, shall remove from the State before he shall have paid five annual contributions, the sum by him already paid may be withdrawn if he desires to withdraw it. In such case his membership shall cease, and his family shall derive no benefit from the funds. If any Clergyman, having made five or more annual contributions, shall leave the State, he may continue his connection with the Society, and entitle his family to the benefit of its funds by continuing his annual contributions.

ARTICLE 16. The Society may provide by its by laws for the receipt of a sum in gross, in lieu of all annual contributions by Clergymen, on such terms, conditions and restrictions as shall seem proper and reasonable. It may, also, by the votes of a

majority of all its clerical members, alter any of the preceding articles of this Constitution; but no alteration so made shall diminish the right of any Clergyman, widow or child, existing at the time thereof, without his or her consent, legally given therefor.

JOHN A. CLARK, Chairman of the Committee.

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### NOTICE.

The next Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State, will meet on the second Tuesday in June, 1834, in Grace Church, Providence.

By order of the Standing Committee,

J. A. CLARK, Sec'y pro tem.

JOURNAL  
OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
FORTY-FOURTH  
ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF THE  
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,  
IN THE  
STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND,

HELD IN GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE, ON TUESDAY, JUNE 10th,  
AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11th, A. D. 1834.

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PROVIDENCE:  
MARSHALL, BROWN & CO.  
1834.

CRANSTON AND HAMMOND, PRINTERS,  
Providence, R. I.

LIST OF THE  
CLERGY AND LAY DELEGATES

WHO COMPOSED THE CONVENTION.

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CLERGY.

- Rev. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.
- Rev. JOSEPH M. BROWN, Rector of St. James' Church, Woonsocket.
- Rev. LEMUEL BURGE, residing at North-Kingstown.
- Rev. NATHAN BOURNE CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.
- Rev. JOHN A. CLARK, Rector of Grace Church, Providence.
- Rev. JAMES W. COOKE, Minister of Christ Church, Lonsdale.
- Rev. ERASTUS D'WOLF, Deacon Missionary at S. Kingstown.
- Rev. JOSEPH P. FENNER, Minister of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.
- Rev. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren.
- Rev. SYLVESTER NASH, Minister of St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich.
- Rev. FRANCIS PECK, Minister of St. Paul's Church, North-Kingstown.
- Rev. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Providence.
- Rev. SALMON WHEATON, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.
- Rev. JOHN WEST, Rector of Zion's Church, Newport.



## LAY DELEGATES.

*Providence.*—St. John's Church. Alexander Jones, Zachariah Allen, Nicholas Stillwell, Austin Gurney.—Grace Church. George S. Wardwell, Richmond Brownell, Resolved Waterman, Samuel Jacobs.

*Newport.*—Trinity Church. William Hunter, Edward Brinley, William C. Gibbs, Robert Johnston.—Zion's Church. Stephen T. Northam, Samuel Whitehorne, Jacob Smith, Charles H. Mumford.

*Bristol.*—St. Michael's Church. William Pearce, Samuel C. Richmond, Benjamin Hall, John G. Harding.

*North-Providence.*—St. Paul's Church. Gideon L. Spencer, George Mumford, Danforth L. Peck, Alanson Thayer.

*North-Kingstown.*—St. Paul's Church. Joshua B. Rathbun, William A. Shaw, David U. Hagan, Wilkins Updike.

*Warren.*—St. Mark's Church. George Pearce, Hail Collins, George Wheaton, Henry Bailey.

*Woonsocket.* St. James' Church. Samuel Greene, Eli Pond, Edmund Bacon, Richard Hoppin.

*Lonsdale.*—Christ Church. Samuel Young, Jonas Pilkington, Loyd Brayton, George Kelly.

*Portsmouth.*—St. Paul's Church. Parker Hall, Joseph Childs, Joseph Thomas.

*East-Greenwich.*—St. Luke's Church. Daniel Greene, Emory Fiske.

PROVIDENCE, TUESDAY, June 10th, 1834.

This day being appointed by the constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Rhode-Island, for the meeting of the Annual Convention of the said Church, the Clergy of the State, and several lay delegates attended in Grace Church, Providence, which had been previously appointed by the Standing Committee as the place of meeting.

Morning prayers were read by the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, and Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Providence, and the Convention Sermon was preached by the Rt. Rev. Alexander

V. Griswold, Bishop of the Eastern Diocess.—Mr. Geo. Burgess and Mr. James Pratt were admitted to the holy order of Deacons.—The communion was then administered by the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, assisted by the Rev. George Taft.

After divine service, the Rt. Rev. Alexander V. Griswold took the chair as President of the Convention; and the list of Clergy entitled to seats being called over, agreeable to the canons, the following answered to their names, and took their seats.

The Rev. Joseph M. Brown, Rector of St. James Church Woonsocket; the Rev. Lemuel Burge, residing at North-Kingstown; the Rev. John A. Clark, Rector of Grace Church Providence; the Rev. James W. Cooke, minister of Christ's Church, Lonsdale; the Rev. Nathan Bourne Crocker, Rector of St. John's Church, Providence; the Rev. Erastus D'Wolf, Deacon Missionary, at South-Kingstown; the Rev. Joseph P. Fenner, minister of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth; the Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren; the Rev. Sylvester Nash, minister of St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich; the Rev. George Taft, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Providence; the Rev. Salmon Wheaton, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport. There was also present the Rev. Ephraim Monroe, of Massachusetts.

The following Lay Delegates presented certificates of their appointments and took their seats.

From St. John's Church, Providence, Alexander Jones, Zachariah Allen, Nicholas Stillwell, Austin Gurney; from Grace Church, Providence, George S. Wardwell, Richmond Brownell, Resolved Waterman, Samuel Jacobs; from Trinity Church, Newport, William Hunter, Edward Brinley, Robert Johnston, William C. Gibbs; from Zion's Church, Newport, Stephen T. Northam, Jacob Smith, Samuel Whitehorne, Charles H. Mumford; from St. Michael's Church, Bristol, William Pearce, Samuel C. Richmond, Benjamin Hall, John G. Harding; from St. Paul's Church, North-Providence, Gideon L. Spencer, George Mumford, Danforth L. Peck, Alanson Thayer; from St. Paul's Church, North-Kingstown, Joshua B. Rathbun, David U. Hagan, Wilkins Updike, William A. Shaw; from St. Mark's Church, Warren, George

Pearce, Hale Collins, George Wheaton, Henry Bailey ; from St. James' Church, Woonsocket, Edmund Bacon, Samuel Greene, Richard Hoppin, Eli Pond.

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On motion, Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to whom shall be referred the certificate of such incorporations of Churches as may be approved by this Convention.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway, and Samuel Whitehorne, Esq. were appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a Committee be appointed to nominate members of the Standing Committee, Delegates to the General Convention, and Secretary of the Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Nash, the Rev. Mr. Cooke, and George S. Wardwell, Esq. were accordingly appointed.

On motion, Resolved, that a Committee of Finance be appointed.

The Rev. Mr. Hathaway and Stephen T. Northam, Esq. were appointed said committee.

Adjourned to meet at half past 3 P. M.

AFTERNOON, 3 o'clock.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on admissions of new Parishes, report that the proper testimonials have been laid before them of the due organization according to the Canons, of St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich, and St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, and they recommend that the said parishes be admitted into this connexion, wherefore it was resolved, that St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, and St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich, be received into convention.

When the following delegates from said parishes appeared and took their seats—from St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, Joseph Child, Parker Hall, Joseph Thomas—from St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich, Daniel Greene, Emory Fiske.

The Committee on new parishes afterwards reported, that testimonials were laid before them, of the organization of Christ's Church, Lonsdale, but said testimonials were not in exact conformity with the 3d Canon of this Convention, not

being properly authenticated by the parish clerk, or secretary of the vestry, but by the senior warden.

On motion, it was resolved, that the foregoing report lie on the table for the present.

The constitution prepared and received at the last convention was duly considered, and adopted with the exception of the words, "alternately in Providence and Newport," in the first article.

The following amendment to the 3d article was proposed and ordered to lie over till the next convention, viz—to insert after the words the "Ecclesiastical authority of the State," the words "provided always the ministers before named, shall have been actually resident in the State six months previous."

The finance committee made report, that they recommend the following assessments in the several churches.

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Trinity Church, Newport,         | \$ 5 00 |
| Zion's do. do.                   | 5 00    |
| St. Michael's do. Bristol,       | 3 75    |
| St. Mark's do. Warren,           | 3 00    |
| St. John's do. Providence,       | 7 50    |
| Grace do. do.                    | 7 50    |
| St. Paul's do. North-Providence, | 3 00    |
| St. James' do. Woonsocket,       | 2 50    |
| St. Paul's do. North-Kingstown,  | 1 25    |
| Christ's do. Lonsdale,           | 2 00    |
| St. Luke's do. East-Greenwich,   | 2 00    |
| St. Paul's do. Portsmouth,       | 1 25    |

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\$ 43 75

which, with the balance now in the hands of the publishing committee, your committee consider will be sufficient to cover the expenses of printing, &c. for the year ensuing.

Your committee also recommend that there be a treasurer elected whose duty it shall be to collect and pay over the funds of the convention, and make an annual report to the convention of the state of the treasury.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, }  
STEPHEN T. NORTHAM, } Committee.



On motion, It was resolved that the aforesaid report be received and adopted.

George S. Wardwell, Esq. was elected Treasurer, in conformity with the foregoing report.

On motion, it was resolved, that the Treasurer be authorized to pay to the Secretary, his bill for postage incurred for the convention.

The Secretary having laid before the Convention a communication from the Rev. Dr. Anthon, Secretary of the General convention, it was resolved, that the Secretary transmit to the General convention the amount due from this convention, in compliance with the assessment made by the last General convention, on the several state conventions, of One Dollar, for each Clergyman, for the purpose of defraying the contingent expenses of said General convention.

On motion, it was resolved, that Christ Church, Lonsdale be received into convention.

The following persons presented their credentials and were admitted as Lay Delegates from Christ Church, to this convention—Samuel Young, James Pilkington, George Kelly.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway having been nominated by the committee appointed for that purpose, was re-elected Secretary of the convention.

The following preamble and resolution having been presented by Rev. John A. Clark, and seconded by Rev. Dr. Crocker, were unanimously adopted by the convention.

“As in the view of this convention, the Temperance Reformation is immediately connected with the temporal and eternal good of men, therefore

Resolved, That this convention regard with unfeigned satisfaction, the efforts that have been put forth to stay the dreadful evil of intemperance, and they recommend to all the members and friends of the Episcopal church within the bounds of this State to use their influence and hearty cooperation to further all those efforts by which the temperance promises to be advanced, and the use of ardent spirits, as a drink, to be banished from our land.”

On motion, Resolved, that the committee on nominations be directed to report at the meeting of the convention, to-



morrow morning, a nomination of officers for the Society for the relief of widows and orphans of deceased clergymen.

Leave of absence was granted to Joseph Child of Portsmouth, and George Wheaton of Warren.

On motion, Resolved, that the first business, when the convention meet to-morrow morning, shall be to hear the parochial reports. •

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 11.

Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Parochial reports were then read.

## ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BRISTOL.

REV. JOHN BRISTED, RECTOR.

The undersigned reports to the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in Rhode-Island, that, through the blessing of God in Christ Jesus, the parish of St. Michael's, in the town of Bristol, still continues to prosper. The people have been permitted to build a very beautiful church, which was consecrated to the service of JEHOVAH, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST, on the sixth day of March. The sale of its pews more than covered all its expenses,—amounting to upwards of sixteen thousand dollars. Since the new church was finished the average number of worshippers has increased, by, at least, one hundred and fifty added hearers. There has been no especial awakening; although a general seriousness prevails, and some seekers seem to have set their faces, in earnest, Zion-ward. The religious services of the parish are, on the Lord's day, prayer and preaching, three times; a Bible class Tuesday evening; a conference-meeting Saturday evening; a Missionary concert-meeting on the first Monday of the month; a prayer-meeting on the Monday evening of each week, except the first, (and then on some other evening,) by the female communicants; a prayer-meeting on Thursday evening of each week by the male communicants; together with as much pastoral visitation as the Rector's incessant pressure of business will allow. On the Wednesday of each week the female Missionary Society of the parish meets to work for the R. I. Clerical Convocation, into whose treasury the parish of St. Michael's has poured *three hundred dollars*, within the last twelve months. The baptisms have been eighteen; two adults, sixteen in-

fants. Persons confirmed, twenty-one; burials eleven; marriages eight; communicants added, fifteen; died, five; left two; whole number, two hundred and twenty-one. For an account of the Sunday School, reference is made to the report of the Superintendent; who meets the teachers for mutual improvement, on Friday evening of each week.

JOHN BRISTED, *Rector*.

JUNE 10, 1834.

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL IN ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BRISTOL,  
RHODE-ISLAND, JUNE, 7, 1834.

There is attached to the School one Superintendent and one Assistant—one Librarian and one Assistant—6 male Teachers, 20 female Teachers—and about 140 scholars attend regularly, in good weather.

One scholar has professed Religion since our last report, and gives evidence of a good faith in Jesus.

I believe we all feel a pleasure in pursuing our studies, and to trust in the Lord to bless our humble exertions. The School is quite interesting at present. Our studies are the Union Questions, and Hymns and portions of Scripture committed to memory.

We have a Library of about 400 volumes.

Yours respectfully,

BENJAMIN HALL, *Supt.*

By GEO. B. MUNRO, *Assist.*

ST. JAMES' CHURCH, WOONSOCKET FALLS.

REV. JOSEPH M. BROWN, *Rector*.

In looking over the past year, I see much reason for gratitude and praise to the great Author and Giver of every blessing, for the many manifestations of his loving kindness and tender mercy. Our hearts have been made glad on witnessing several decided cases of conversion. Four individuals have come forward and professed Christ before the world, and attached themselves to our Communion. These, with other accessions, make the number of communicants about thirty. There have been six baptisms; twenty marriages, and twenty funerals.

On Sunday there are usually three services; a prayer meeting on Monday evening; a lecture on Wednesday evening; and the Monthly Concert. On Sunday the services are generally well attended. Seriousness and solemnity are visible in the congregation, and we are led to hope that the time is not far distant when many will embrace the blessed hope of everlasting life, and openly confess their Lord and Redeemer. Many who looked at the planting of this Church as a

wild scheme, and ridiculed the idea of its success, have looked with astonishment at its rapid growth, and have now become deeply interested in her affairs. The sweet spot upon the banks of the Blackstone, where now stands this lovely retreat for the worshippers of God, about two years ago was covered with forest trees. God has given us his blessing; and now, from Sabbath to Sabbath, this sacred temple, half hidden among the lofty evergreens, is the happy resort of the weary, way-worn pilgrim, to gain refreshment from the bread of life, and mingle in the prayers and songs of Zion.

St. James' Sunday School, under the care of Mr. Samuel Green, is large and flourishing. The Ladies' Sewing Society is in a prosperous state, and promises to meet with very happy success. Altogether the prospects of St. James were never more flattering than at the present time.

JOSEPH M. BROWN, *Rector*.

## GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

REV. JOHN A. CLARK, *RECTOR*.

The Rector of this Church in making his annual report to the Convention desires first of all to offer a tribute of thanksgiving to Him who is King in Zion, "the great Shepherd and Bishop of our souls," for his continued blessing on this part of his vineyard. Through divine mercy, the seriousness spoken of in the report of 1833 has continued up to the present time undiminished, and it is believed that a deep sense of divine things still rests upon the minds of a portion of the congregation, who are enquiring the way to Zion. We have had the satisfaction of seeing many who at the commencement of our ministry in this parish were totally indifferent to their eternal welfare, and some who were utterly hostile to evangelical truth, bowing in deep penitence and humble contrition at the foot of the cross.—We desire to record this with feelings of deep gratitude to the great head of the church. We regard every instance of this sort as a triumph of sovereign mercy, and the result of infinite grace. No previous year's labor has brought to our mind so many convincing proofs, that all the power is of God—that without Christ—without the direct influence of the infinite and almighty Spirit, we can do nothing towards saving souls. Oh that there were among us all a more lowly, and humble, and prayerful spirit.

The season of Lent, especially of "Passion Week," was greatly blessed to our people. We have reason to hope that more than twenty persons during that season, while fixing their eyes upon the agonies



and sufferings of Christ dying for their sins, were led to give up their hearts to God.

In addition to the ordinary exercises of the Sabbath, there have been lectures on Wednesday and Friday evenings—and also Bible class exercises on Saturday afternoon and Sunday evening—and we have reason to believe that these have been signally blessed to those who have attended upon them.

The Sunday School has increased in the number of its attendants, and is in a flourishing state. An adult colored Sunday School has also been established, which is well attended, and has been already productive of great good. It cannot but be a source of high satisfaction to every philanthropist, patriot and christian, to see efforts put forth for the intellectual and moral improvement of this depressed and ill-fated portion of our population. May the Lord put it into the hearts of all our churches to do something in this cause!

Our people we hope are waking up more and more to a sense of the obligation that rests upon them, to see “that the gospel is preached to every creature.” The monthly concerts of prayer we think have exerted a happy influence in this respect.

Something has been done both for foreign and domestic missions: Our Missionary Society mentioned in our last report, is upon the whole in a prosperous state. A Society has also been formed for assisting in educating pious young men for the ministry.

It is due to the piety, zeal, and persevering efforts of the ladies connected with the sewing circle in this parish, to say, that during the last year they have put into the treasury of the convention, for supporting missionaries in this state \$ 400—And into the treasury of the “Dom. and For. Miss. Soc. of the Prot. Ep. Ch. in the U. S.” \$ 50, besides doing considerable for other objects.

Should we continue to be favored with the blessing of Heaven, the only obstacle we apprehend in the way of our prosperity is the limited accommodations in our church edifice. Already numbers who desire to worship with us are excluded, by the difficulty they find in obtaining seats for themselves and their families. It is hoped that some mode of enlargement agreeable to all will speedily be devised by which this difficulty will be obviated.

|                               |   |   |   |     |                                |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|-----|--------------------------------|
| Adult Baptisms                | - | - | - | 56  | } Total 85                     |
| Infant do.                    | - | - | - | 29  |                                |
| Communicants added            | - | - | - | 82  | } Present number<br>total 218. |
| Number at last Report         | - | - | - | 150 |                                |
| During the last year deceased | - | - | - | 5   |                                |
| Removed                       | - | - | - | 11  |                                |

|  |       |     |
|--|-------|-----|
| Number of persons confirmed                        | - - - | 176 |
| Number of names enrolled on the Sunday School list |       | 353 |
| Average attendance                                 | - - - | 145 |
| Teachers   |       | 36  |
| Adult Colored School. Scholars                     | - - - | 140 |
| Teachers   |       | 18  |
| Funerals 15. Marriages 5.                          |       |     |

JOHN A. CLARK.

## CHRIST CHURCH, LONSDALE (Smithfield.)

REV. JAMES W. COOKE, MISSIONARY.

In accordance with the wishes of the convocation of this State, and the opinion unanimously expressed by them, that it was my duty to enter the ministry immediately with a view to occupy my present field of labor, I dissolved my connexion with the General Theological Seminary and took orders in the latter part of September last. Not having completed the course of preparation which I had prescribed for myself, and being in a bad state of health, it was not without fear and trembling, that I took upon me the solemn vows of a minister of Christ. I have the satisfaction, however, confidently to believe that I followed the path of duty; and I desire humbly to adore that gracious and condescending Being whose goodness has followed me all the days of my life.

I commenced my labors here about the first of October. For several months previous, with the exception of a few weeks, the Rev. Mr. Taft of Pawtucket, had officiated once every Sunday, besides attending to the duties of his own parish; and to him, under God, the church is much indebted. It should be added also, that the Rev. Mr. Nash officiated here about two months under the direction of the convocation.

A year since, the people almost universally, were wholly unacquainted with the services of the church, and deep-rooted prejudices were entertained against them. Not a single member of our communion was to be found in the whole neighborhood. There was one family however decidedly attached to the services of the church, and to their zeal and efforts we are much indebted. The result is another illustration of the truth, that the church needs only to be truly known, in order to be appreciated. Many of these prejudices have subsided and the rest are fast giving way.

On commencing my labors, I reorganized the Sunday school which had been given up. It now numbers ninety-five scholars and fourteen



téachers. At first, but one pious individual could be found to engage as a teacher. There are now *ten*, most of whom have become pious since the commencement of the present year, and are connected with the church. Six individuals who undertook the charge of teaching the gospel to others while they were themselves strangers to its power, are now we trust, the subjects of divine grace. One scholar gives the most satisfactory evidence of a birth unto righteousness, and at least three others are in a very serious state of mind.

With the Sunday school is connected a very interesting Bible class of young ladies which now numbers seventeen members. I have had charge of the school personally, and have found it by no means the least interesting field of duty. Teachers meetings have been held generally once in two weeks. Experience has proved that these meetings are intimately connected with the prosperity of the school.

As soon as practicable, a second service was commenced on Sunday.

After the people had become sufficiently interested, a Bible class was formed which commenced the first of January, and has been continued since that time, meeting once a fortnight, on Wednesday evening. The course pursued has been to give out a certain number of written questions, which an equal number of the class are required to answer in writing. The interest in the class has been very general and still continues. It now numbers about eighty members.

Other meetings have also been held during the week, for several months past; so that generally three or four evenings are occupied either in public exercises, or in religious meetings of a more private character. I have also preached a few times out of the neighborhood.

A meeting of the inhabitants of the village and neighborhood was held in December, when a parish was organized by the name of Christ Church, and measures were taken to procure a charter formed in accordance with the principles and usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.

A Sewing Circle has also been formed by the ladies of the parish, chiefly with a view to the support of Missionaries. The proceeds now amount to not far from fifty dollars.

In a spiritual point of view, this parish has been much blessed. The first instance of seriousness occurred in the Sunday School. About the close of the last year, I observed one of the scholars weeping, evidently in distress. On inquiring the cause, she told me it was in view of her sins. It seems she had been in this state of mind for several weeks. I hailed this as an earnest of a more abundant harvest—for I knew that he, who had began the work in a child, was

equally able to break the most stubborn heart. My expectations were not disappointed. The individual just alluded to, after the lapse of many weeks was at last brought to realize a Saviour's love; and continues to give bright evidence of a growing christian. Soon a member of the congregation was brought to feel the power of God; and then another, and another, until at last we have a little band whom we trust will be numbered among the redeemed of the Lord. This work of grace has been attended by no public excitement of the animal feelings. It has been characterized by a depth and individuality that leaves no room to question its character. It is now nearly six months since it first commenced. At no one time have there been more than six, generally not more than four or five, under exercises of mind at the same time, exclusive of those who had already experienced a saving faith. Twenty individuals have been baptized; most of them have become pious since the commencement of the present year, and all of them give the best evidence that they are born into the kingdom of God. There are still four or five candidates for baptism, and about the same number who are anxiously seeking the way of life. May the prayers of the brethren ascend with ours, that this blessed work may continue, until in every family and every heart, an altar shall be raised unto the Lord Jesus Christ.

Until within a few weeks, the services have been held in the School House of the village. By the liberality of the Lonsdale Company a convenient room has been prepared in one of the factory buildings, furnished with a plain desk and altar, and sufficiently large to accommodate comfortably four hundred persons. Since the occupation of this room, the congregation has rapidly increased. An offer has also been made by the same Company to contribute one third of the cost of a suitable church edifice. We trust that another third can be raised in the parish; and to the friends of the Church, generally, we shall look with confidence to lend us a helping hand. In the prosecution of my duties, I have experienced many trials of mind and encountered many obstacles. But such will ever be the case where the humbling doctrines of the cross are preached. We have failed not, however to "look to the hills from whence cometh our help," and truly, "our help has been in the name of the Lord." All things have been overruled for good by a kind Providence, and it is our highest joy to be able to say, "Not unto us—not unto us, but unto thy name, O Lord! be the praise."

There have been in all, Adult Baptisms, 20—Marriages, 2—Funerals, 6—Sunday School scholars, 95—Teachers, 14.

JAMES W. COOKE, *Missionary*.

## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE,

REV. NATHAN BOURNE CROCKER, RECTOR.

Baptisms—Adults 19, infants, 9.

Confirmed, 24.

Admitted to the Communion, 20.

N. B. CROCKER.

PROVIDENCE, May 11th, 1834.

## REV. ERASTUS D'WOLF, DEACON MISSIONARY.

WESTERLY, June 9, 1834.

The labors of your unworthy servant, for the past year, have been somewhat divided. I preached nearly eight months at Tower Hill, South-Kingstown; three or four in that parish have become the hopeful subjects of saving grace. It is greatly to be desired that the services of our church should be continued in that place. The unhappy difficulties concerning the lands in the Narraganset, we have reason to believe will be forgotten, as they have been settled. They have a good spot near the church of twenty-seven acres of land of good quality, on which it is thought best to build a house for a parsonage. I am happy in being able to say, that the people manifest a good degree of interest in securing the services of some faithful servant of the Redeemer. The other four months of this year have been spent in missionary labors, eight weeks for Zion's Church, Newport, and the remaining part of the time in the village of Pawcatuck. There we find about 700 inhabitants, without any resident minister. They never had one. The people are intelligent, kind and affectionate. We find much to do. Our service was almost entirely new to those good people. Those that have taken up the prayer book and joined us in the worship of our God and Savior, according to its excellent forms of devotion, have invariably expressed their delight, satisfaction and edification. They that have not joined in the worship of course cannot be competent judges of its merits. The Lord has been with us. Four or five have experienced hopefully the grace of God. Our services are very well attended, but yet there is room.

We have a Sunday School consisting of more than one hundred teachers and scholars. This I superintend personally. We have a library of more than two hundred volumes.

Baptisms 2; Funerals 4; Marriages 1.

ERASTUS D'WOLF, *Missionary*.



## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH.

J. P. FENNER, MINISTER.

On the 7th of July last, the Minister of this new parish commenced his labors at Portsmouth, in the service of the Clerical Convocation of Rhode-Island. The parish was organized in August. The erection of the church was commenced in September and finished in December. The church was occupied for the first time on Christmas day. It was consecrated in March. It is a neat and commodious edifice of the Gothic order; will accommodate from three hundred to three hundred and fifty persons, and may be advantageously enlarged. About twelve hundred dollars\* and several valuable articles of church furniture were given by, friends in Boston, Providence, Bristol, Warren and Newport. The money was contributed to be vested in Pews; the pews to be rented, and the proceeds appropriated towards the support of the resident Minister. The expense of collecting the contributions was, through the hospitality of friends, less than one per cent. On the sale of the pews the church will, it is believed, be free from debt.

The Minister ordinarily officiates thrice on the Lord's day, and superintends the Sunday School. He has weekly lectures in private houses, in various parts of the parish. A missionary-meeting is held on the first Monday in each month. A meeting of the female Convocation Society, and a meeting for prayer for the divine blessing on the Minister's labours, are held weekly. A considerable portion of time is devoted to pastoral visiting, which is indispensable to success in forming a new congregation among a dispersed population. Through the liberality of friends, prayer-books, works on experimental and practical piety, and religious tracts, have been distributed. The parish has been visited with more than ordinary sickness and mortality, which, through the Divine blessing, has been the means of leading some persons to seek their soul's salvation. Of the adults baptized, one is nearly seventy years of age, and another towards sixty. The communicants give credible evidence that they have been "born of the Spirit." Some are, it is believed, "not far from the kingdom of God." There are growing seriousness and marked outward reformation. Houses are from time to time opened for religious services by such as have not been accustomed to frequent public worship, and there is increasing attendance at the sanctuary.

In addition to the ordinary duties of a parish, the Minister has ne-

\* One hundred dollars were given by the Ladies' Philanthropic Society of St. John's, Providence.

cessarily been engaged in collecting funds, in the erection of the church, and in the organization and primary instruction of the congregation: but through the goodness and mercy of God, divine service has been performed every Lord's day. Various circumstances combined to render Portsmouth unpropitious to the establishment of a new church, and its position has, in a great degree, excluded the Minister from clerical aid; but he has thus been the more constrained to flee to the Lord for help, and can add his humble testimony to that of the blessed servants of God, who "out of weakness were made strong;" that "THE LORD, HE IS GOD," for "*the temple of the Lord is built not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts.*" Zech.

The Rev. Mr. Honeyman, who was appointed by the "Society for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts," their first missionary to Newport in 1704, (as we learn from "An historical account of the Society, by David Humphreys, &c.") "set up, in 1712, a lecture, and preached once a fortnight, at Portsmouth." From the time of Mr. Honeyman until the present, the position has, it is believed, been unoccupied by the Church. In view of the depressed state of our beloved Zion since that period, and of its present dawning prosperity, of which the reoccupation of this place is at once an example and an emblem, we may well take courage, and thankfully and joyfully exclaim, "Lord, thou hast been favourable unto thy people! thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob! *Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.*"

Baptized adults, 5. Confirmed, 9. Communicants at the commencement, 2—added, 11—removed, 1—total, 12. Sunday School Scholars, (average attendance,) 40 to 50—Teachers, 10. Marriages, 2. Funerals, 8.

## ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN.

REV. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, RECTOR.

Reports baptisms, 38 adults, 13 infants, total 51. Marriages 7. Burials 13. Communicants added 61, died 2, removed 3, present number 78.

God, in his rich mercy, has very much blessed us the last few months. Since October there has been a general seriousness in the congregation, and many have been brought to the anxious inquiry, "what shall we do?" The public services of the church and our prayer and social meetings have been fully attended, and many have been enabled to rejoice in the hope of an interest in the Saviour. It has been truly a



season of refreshing to us. The large accession of spiritual strength to our infant church has served to encourage our hearts, strengthen our faith, and enliven our hope, and should, more than we fear it does, inspire us with warm affections of gratitude, love and ardent praise to our great and adorable Redeemer, who has thus crowned our feeble efforts to serve him with such disproportionate success.

There are some interesting circumstances connected with the revival among us, that I would here notice. Among the 61 just added to the communion are 13 married couple, husbands with their wives.—Of the 61, 55 are married and heads of families. A large proportion are males, there being 25 males and 37 females. And what is no less interesting or uncommon, four of the persons, two males and two females, are between 60 and 70 years of age. All, or nearly all, are amongst the most intelligent, respectable and influential of our community.

Our usual religious services are the morning and afternoon public services at the church, and a social meeting in the evening, at the lecture room, on Sundays—a prayer meeting on Tuesday evenings—a Bible class for young ladies on Wednesday evenings—a general Bible class on Thursday evenings—and a prayer meeting on Saturday evenings, all of which have been attended with a great deal of interest, though without any excitement; and we feel that they have all been very much blessed to our spiritual awakening and edification.

We have observed the monthly concerts of prayer; and we are happy to add that as our spiritual state has improved, a missionary spirit has proportionably increased among us, and our monthly concerts are now among our most interesting and popular exercises. Our missionary society is of course, flourishing, and has been enabled to do the past year twice as much as in any former year. The members have recently adopted the principle enjoined by the apostle of laying by them on the first day of the week according as God has prospered them, which amount is deposited at our monthly meetings in a box at the door, in an envelope with the depositor's name thereon. We are encouraged to hope that this plan will enable the society to do much more the coming year than the past, and that with greater profit and convenience to the members.

A portion of our ladies, with a zeal and engagedness that does them much credit, are actively and industriously engaged in a sewing society, by which they have been able to contribute much to the ornaments and conveniences of the church, and as we trust, to promote their own and the happiness and interest of our Zion. Having realized in their own blessed experience that "God is not unrighteous, to forget

their works, and labor that proceedeth of love," they are encouraged to persevere, and will, we trust, be more and more useful, and more and more happy, as they continue to walk in the paths of christian benevolence and love.

Our Sunday School is flourishing, consisting of 100 scholars and 12 teachers. It has an infant department, and a library consisting of 200 volumes.

The temporal concerns of this church are as heretofore in a prosperous state. Too much praise cannot be given to the congregation for the great harmony and unanimity that pervade all their proceedings, and for the generous liberality with which all the necessities of the church are met. During the past year we had the misfortune to break our bell, which however was immediately replaced by one much larger. A room has been finished and neatly fitted up in the basement of the church sufficiently large to accommodate *two hundred and fifty* persons; which is used for the Sunday School and evening exercises. Our congregation having considerably increased, and there being a greater demand for pews than could be supplied, it has been determined to enlarge the church sufficiently to add twenty-four pews more; for which purpose a contract has been made, and the carpenters and masons are now engaged in the work.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY.

## ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, EAST-GREENWICH.

REV. SYLVESTER NASH, RECTOR.

The undersigned first visited East-Greenwich, in company with the Rev. John Bristed, in July last, and in consequence of an arrangement between the Convocation and a Committee of Gentlemen from that place, began to hold stated services there on Sunday the 4th of August.

On the 10th of August, at a meeting of the people, duly convened, an Episcopal Society was formed under the above name,—a Vestry chosen and measures adopted to obtain a title to the lot, and building then in progress, as a house of worship, for the use of the Society.

These measures were successful, and the Edifice, as is known, was consecrated by our beloved Diocesan on the 17th of April last.

At the time regular stated service commenced there was but one communicant of our order in or near the place, and for several weeks no perceptible spiritual effect was produced, but during the winter some souls were awakened to a sense of their lost condition, and seven

were added to the communion, who had previously thought little upon the subject.

A Bible Class has been regularly attended once a week, in which there appears to be felt a deep and increasing interest. The Ladies have been very succesfully engaged in a sewing Society; and we have now a Sunday School consisting of upwards of ninety scholars and sixteen teachers.

The undersigned would also with gratitude acknowledge the goodness of God in the present indications of a work of the spirit among the elder members of the Sunday School. Some, we have reason to believe, have been renewed in heart, and several more are serious, anxiously inquiring what they must do to be saved.

There is indeed much cause for thankfulness for what the Lord hath done in this parish.

Baptisms, adults 5, confirmations 8, communicants 9, funerals 2, Sunday scholars 93.

SYLVESTER NASH.

## FRANCIS PECK, MISSIONARY.

*Now stationed at Wickford.*

In compliance with the wishes of the Rhode-Island Convocation, I have, for several months past, laboured at the manufacturing village of Natick. During my residence there, some tokens of God's gracious presence, by the influences of his Spirit, have been manifested. Several cases of decided conversion and an increased degree of interest among some who attended the services of the sanctuary, gave evidence that my entering among them had not been entirely in vain. A Sabbath School in addition to the one previously existing was formed and well attended. A tract society was also organized, and the manner in which its messages of mercy and love were received allows the cherishing the hope that their voice will not be unheeded.

But while the writer, in common with every herald of the cross, has reason to be thankful for any portion of Divine favor which may be shown to his feeble efforts, he must ever feel it his duty to occupy that station in the Lord's vineyard which gives promise of the most abundant harvest. A more extensive opening having presented itself, where the prospects of the Church were more bright, and the interest long felt in her worship promised more immediate success, it appeared expedient to occupy that station.

My limited acquaintance, with Wickford, (the parish which the Convocation, as their Missionary, has assigned me,) forbids the ven-



turing a very decided opinion, as to its spiritual prospects. With the favor and approbation of the Great Head of the Church, we feel assured that the walls of our Zion will there be built up, and many be gathered into the fold of God, who shall be found at last among his redeemed people.

FRANCIS PECK, *Missionary*.

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-PROVIDENCE.

REV. GEORGE TAFT, RECTOR.

The Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Providence, reports to the Convention, 123 communicants—21 baptisms—10 marriages—8 deaths—100 sabbath school scholars—18 confirmations.

From the meeting of the last annual convention, till some time in the autumn, I preached once a Sunday, at 5 o'clock P. M. at Lonsdale, excepting a few Sabbaths supplied by the Rev. Mr. Nash.—My services in that place were discontinued when the Rev. Mr. Cooke, the Missionary appointed to that station by the Convocation, entered upon his labours. And I am happy to have it in my power to state that his labours have been greatly blessed of the Lord, and I am not left to see the child of my anxieties and prayers die.

During the last year I have attended 48 funerals, only 8 of which were in my own parish. In performing these funeral services, the greatest distance that I have travelled at one time is 12 miles; I have often gone 4 or 5 miles.—On most of these occasions I have preached.

My parish, through the goodness of the Lord, is prospering in spiritual things.—I have lately baptized 4 adults.—There are now several candidates for baptism and a number more inquiring what they must do to be saved.

The church is well attended on the Sabbath—my regular meetings on Sunday and Wednesday evenings are full. For two months past, I have held a meeting at my house for reading the scriptures, prayer and religious conversation, designed especially for those who are anxious about their souls' salvation. These meetings have been well attended and greatly blessed.

The male members of the church have a prayer meeting on Thursday evening and the female members on Saturday evening, of each week.

The Female Missionary Society are doing what they can, under the present embarrassment of our village, for the missionary cause.

The Sunday School, though not so numerously attended as in some

years past, owing to the increased number of Sunday schools in the place, is flourishing.

GEORGE TAFT.

NORTH-PROVIDENCE, June 10th, 1834.

## TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT.

REV. S. WHEATON, RECTOR.

Baptisms—Adults, 5—Children 12—Total 17. Marriages 3. Funerals 24.

As a new parish has recently been formed in Newport, it has been found impracticable to ascertain the number of communicants at present belonging to Trinity Church; as it is not known to the Rector how many of his former communicants have permanently attached themselves to the new church.

The Sunday School has increased since the last convention, and now consists of two superintendents, 21 teachers and 180 scholars. Additions have also been made to the library, so that it now contains over 600 volumes.

## ZION'S CHURCH, NEWPORT.

JOHN WEST, RECTOR.

The report of this parish at the last convention was that of a recently commenced missionary station. The interval has proved in various respects a period of unusual interest, having been remarkably characterised by severe labors, sacrifices and privations, and yet no less by signal support and success. The congregation has been subjected to great inconvenience and frequent change in their place of worship. They have been at the same time, laboring under all the anxiety and responsibility incident to the building of a new church by an infant congregation. To this has been added the more serious calamity of a sudden and almost entire exclusion of their pastor from his sphere of labor in the most important crisis, and for the long period of several months. Yet, favored by the same kind Providence which originated the work, and sustained by the R. I. Convocation in a manner eminently honorable to their generosity and self-denial, they have been supplied by constant services, and furnished with pecuniary aid as far as was essential to their support; and have been steadily progressing toward what promises to be a successful and happy termination of their work. The congregation appears firmly united and ardently attached to the



church. The new church is in readiness for consecration; the missionary will be instituted as Rector, with a competent support independently of all foreign aid; and an interesting class of candidates are in a course of preparation for confirmation, some of whom will be presented on the ensuing occasion of the consecration.

The number of communicants last reported was 18. There have been 15 added and 1 removed—present number 32. Marriages 2; Baptisms 6; Burials 3.

NEWPORT, June 9, 1834.

### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, N. KINGSTOWN.

The Lay Delegate from this parish made a verbal report, from which it would seem there were among that people several tokens for good. The Sunday School was flourishing. Several communicants had been recently added. And there was an increasing desire to have the services of the Church kept up. The former Rector having resigned his charge, the Rev. Francis Peck, was, immediately after the Convention, by a previous arrangement, to enter upon this field of labor.

On motion, it was resolved, that a Committee be appointed to make arrangements to print the Journal of the Convention together with the Parochial Reports, and the Organization and Constitution of the Education Society.

Rev. Messrs. Clark and Hathaway, and Geo. S. Wardwell, Esq. were appointed that Committee.

Resolved, that 1500 copies of the Journal be published—that 1000 copies be immediately distributed among the churches according to the size of the parishes, and the remaining copies be placed in the hands of the publishing Committee, to be subject to the call of the several Clergymen of the State.

The Committee of Nominations reported as follows—

*The Standing Committee*—Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. John A. Clark, and Rev. George Taft, of the Clergy. Benjamin Cowell, Richmond Brownell and George Mumford, of the Laity.

The foregoing report was accepted, and the persons named were appointed the Standing Committee.

*Delegates to the General Convention*—Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. George Taft, Rev. John A. Clark, Rev. John West, of the Clergy. Stephen T. Northam, Alexander Jones, Daniel Greene, Edward S. Wilkinson, of the Laity.

The above report was accepted, and the persons named were appointed delegates to the General Convention.

The Bishop having retired, the Rev. Dr. Crocker was called to the chair.

The Secretary having obtained leave of absence, Rev. James W. Cooke was chosen Secretary pro. tem.

The Rev. John A. Clark, Rector of Grace Church, Providence, was appointed to preach the next convention sermon. Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence, his substitute.

The Rev. George Taft, of North-Providence, was appointed to preach the Sunday School Sermon—Rev. James W. Cooke, of Lonsdale, his substitute.

The Rev. John Bristed, of Bristol, was appointed to preach the Missionary Sermon—Rev. Francis Peck, of Wickford, his substitute.

The Rev. James W. Cooke, and George S. Wardwell, Esq. were appointed a committee to ascertain the unfinished business of the convention.

The Rev. Joseph Brown, obtained leave of absence.

The convention then resolved itself into the

### EDUCATION SOCIETY.

The committee appointed at a previous meeting reported that the following Gentlemen had been duly elected Officers of the Society.

REV. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. President.

|   |                 |                    |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| " | SALMON WHEATON, | } Vice Presidents. |
| " | JOHN A. CLARK,  |                    |
| " | SYLVESTER NASH, |                    |

" JAMES W. COOKE, Secretary.

ALEXANDER JONES, Esq. Treasurer.

John Taylor, Esq. Robert H. Ives, Esq. Daniel Greene, Esq. Robert Johnston, Esq. Samuel Whitehorne, Esq. Joseph Childs, Esq. Samuel Greene, Esq. Lemuel C. Richmond, Esq. Jeremiah Whipple, Esq. and David Lefavour, Esq. Directors.

Measures having been taken to procure the signatures of the members of the Convention as members of the society, the society then resolved itself into Convention.

The committee on unfinished business, reported, That there was no further business before the Convention, except that which related to the Missionary Society.

On motion, the Convention resolved itself into the

### MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The following Gentlemen were elected Officers for the ensuing year.

REV. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. President.

REV. JAMES W. COOKE, Secretary.

ALEXANDER JONES, Esq. Treasurer.

George S. Wardwell, Esq. in behalf of the committee on the Missionary Funds, reported that the consent of the original donors, with the exception of those deceased, had been obtained for their transfer to the Treasurer of the convention. Whereupon it was resolved that the Treasurer be authorized to make the proposed transfer, so far as the consent of the original donors have been obtained.

The Society then resolved itself into Convention.

On motion it was resolved, that the next Annual Convention should be held in Zion Church, Newport.

On motion the Convention then adjourned.

Attest :                      GEO. W. HATHAWAY, Secretary.

## APPENDIX I.

### SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF DECEASED CLERGYMEN.

Immediately after the rising of the Convention, the Society having been called to order, the Rev. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. was called to the Chair, and Rev. JAMES W. COOKE, was chosen Secretary *pro tem*.

The following gentlemen were elected Officers of the Society for the ensuing year.

Rev. GEORGE TAFT, President.

Rev. JOHN A. CLARK, Vice President.

RESOLVED WATERMAN, Esq. Secretary.

SAMUEL WHITEHORNE, Esq. Treasurer.

ALEXANDER JONES, Esq. }

DANIEL GREENE, Esq. }

GEORGE MUMFORD, Esq. }

} Directors.

On motion, it was resolved, That the Board of Managers should take such measures as they should deem expedient to collect funds and carry into operation the designs of the Society.

The Board of Managers with the addition of Wm. E. Richmond, Esq. were appointed a Committee to procure an Act of Incorporation. The Society then adjourned.

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## APPENDIX II.

### CONSTITUTION

OF THE

### PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

IN THE STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND.

This church as a constituent part of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and also by conventional agreement of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocess, accedes to the general constitution of this church, and to the particular constitution of this Diocess, and acknowledges their authority.



## ARTICLE 2.

After divine service, the President and Secretary of the preceding convention shall take their places, when it shall be the duty of the Secretary to call the names of the clergy, on the catalogue, and to receive and read the certificates of the lay delegates. The President and Secretary for the ensuing year shall then be chosen, and the minutes of the preceding convention shall be read, and the necessary committees appointed.

## ARTICLE 3.

The convention shall be composed of the officiating ministers settled in the parishes in this State, and also of such ministers as are employed as instructors in any incorporated seminary of learning in this State, and of missionaries officiating within this State under the direction of the ecclesiastical authority of the State; and of lay members, consisting of one or more delegates not exceeding four from each parish, which shall have been recognised by the convention, duly chosen by the vestry or congregation.

[The following amendment to the 3d Article was proposed for adoption, viz—to insert after the words the “Ecclesiastical authority of the State,” the words “Provided always the ministers before named shall have been actual residents in the State six months previous.”]

## ARTICLE 4.

New parishes shall be admitted into union with this convention, on presenting to the convention written evidence, under the authority of the wardens and vestry, that they are duly organized, and accede to the constitution and canons of the general convention and also of the convention of this State.

## ARTICLE 5.

The Bishop shall preside in the convention; but when absent the president shall be chosen by the convention.

## ARTICLE 6.

A secretary shall be chosen upon the assembling of the State Convention from among the members thereof, who shall remain in office until the meeting of the next convention, and until the appointment of a successor. His duty shall be to take minutes of their proceedings, to preserve their journals and records; to attest the public acts of the body, and faithfully to deliver into the hands of his successor all books and papers relative to the concerns of the convention which may have been put into his possession. It shall also be his duty to give notice to each minister of the time and place appointed for the meeting of the succeeding convention.

## ARTICLE 7.

The members of the Convention present on due notification, and being duly organized, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. And in all matters which shall come before the convention the members shall deliberate in one body; and, in voting, shall vote by individuals. But if in any case it be required by any member, the two orders shall vote separately, and in such case the laity shall vote by congregations, and the concurrence of a majority of each order shall be necessary to constitute a decision.



## ARTICLE 8.

Canons for the government of the church, and rules of order for the conducting of business may be adopted from time to time by the convention.

## ARTICLE 9.

The mode of altering this constitution shall be as follows: A proposition of amendment shall be introduced in writing and considered in the convention, and if approved of, shall lie over to the next convention, and if again approved of in that convention by a majority of the two orders voting thereon separately, the change shall take place, and the constitution so altered shall be valid and obligatory.

## CANONS.

## CANON 1.

## STANDING COMMITTEE.

There shall be a Standing Committee consisting of three clergymen and three laymen, to be elected at each stated meeting of the Convention, who shall keep regular minutes of their proceedings subject to the inspection of the Convention; and shall continue in office until the election of a new committee. A majority shall be a quorum.

## CANON 2.

## TESTIMONIAL OF DELEGATES.

Lay delegates to the Convention shall present testimonials of their election, which shall be in conformity with the mode prescribed by the parish they represent, and signed by the parish clerk or secretary of the vestry.

## CANON 3.

## TESTIMONIAL OF NEW PARISHES.

Delegates from new parishes applying for admission into the Convention shall present a certificate signed by the parish clerk, or the secretary of the vestry, declaring that certain individuals have united in the formation of a parish, elected wardens and vestrymen, and other necessary officers, and adopted and taken measures to become incorporated under a charter formed in accordance with the principles and usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, and that they accede to the General and State Constitution and Canons.

## CANON 4.

## PROVISION FOR PRINTING PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

The committee of the Convention shall, when directed, cause to be published, from the funds of the Convention, the proceedings of the stated meetings of this body together with a list of the ministers of the church residing within the State, annexing the names of their respective cures, or stations, or if those who have no stated cure, or station, the place of residence; and also the constitution, canons and rules of order.

## ARTICLE 1.

There shall be a stated Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State on the second Tuesday in June, in each year, in such parish as shall be determined by the Convention.

### CANON 5.

#### NEGLECT OF PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

In order to secure a full and accurate view of the state of the church, in case the requisitions of the 51st general canon on this subject are not complied with by the minister or other proper authority of any parish, it shall be the duty of the convention to cause inquiry to be made into its condition.

### CANON 6.

#### OFFENCES FOR WHICH MINISTERS SHALL BE TRIED AND PUNISHED.

Disorderly, scandalous and immoral conduct, neglect of duty, engaging in any worldly avocations, palpably incompatible with the clerical office, and the due discharge of pastoral duty, disregard of the constitution and canons of the general and state convention, a continued non-attendance at the annual convention of the church in this State, disseminating or countenancing opinions contrary to the doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, are offences for which a clergyman ought to be censured and for which when accused, he ought to be brought to trial.

### CANON 7

If any clergyman of this church offend in any one or more of the instances enumerated in the foregoing canon, complaint may be made thereof by any presbyter to the annual convention; and if, in the opinion of a majority of the presbyters present there shall be sufficient cause for said complaint, it shall be their duty to furnish the accused with a copy of the charge or charges, specifying a time, not short of thirty days, when, and place where, he shall appear to answer to the same. No layman, however, shall act as advocate for either party on the trial, and if the major part of the presbyters present at the trial, after hearing the evidence, shall judge the accused person guilty of said charge or charges, their decision shall be made known to the Bishop, and he shall pronounce judgment accordingly.

### CANON 8.

To defray the contingent expenses of the convention, a sum sufficient for this purpose shall be assessed upon the several parishes in proportion to the salaries of the respective ministers; for the payment of which several sums, each minister shall be made responsible.

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## RULES OF ORDER.

1. Every stated Convention shall be opened with prayer, the communion and a sermon; the preacher having been previously appointed by the Convention.

2. The morning service of the Church, or a special service appointed by the Bishop, shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention.

3. When the President takes the chair no member shall continue standing, or shall afterward stand up except to address the chair.

4. No member shall absent himself from the house unless he have leave or be unable to attend.

5. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the house, he shall rise and with due respect address himself to the president, and confine himself strictly to the point in debate.

6. When two members chance to rise at the same time, the president shall determine to whom the preference shall be given; and on all questions of order the president shall decide—subject to an appeal to the house.

7. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave.

8. No motion shall be acted upon until seconded, and, when required, reduced to writing.

9. While the president is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse to the interruption of the house.

10. Every member who is in the house, when any question is put, shall on a division be counted, unless he be personally interested in the question, or excused by the President. No member personally interested in any question, shall, without permission, act in any capacity while it is under deliberation.

11. When a motion is under consideration no other motion shall be made, except to postpone, to amend, to divide, or to commit.

12. A motion for amendment or postponement shall be considered as the previous question, and be decided before the original motion.

13. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order and shall be decided without debate.

14. The yeas and nays shall be called and entered on the minutes when required by one fifth of the members present.

15. At the request of the president, or on motion, the Convention may resolve itself into a committee of the whole.

16. All elections when required by two members shall be by ballot.

17. When the lay members vote by congregation it shall also be by ballot.

18. All other questions shall be decided viva voce, or by hand vote, unless a ballot be called for by two members.

19. The sittings of the convention shall be open to all persons who choose to attend, unless otherwise ordered by the house.

20. After the first day the minutes of the preceding day shall be read each morning at the opening of the Convention, and, if necessary, corrected; and before the rising of the Convention the whole proceedings of the session shall be read.

21. When the house is about to rise every member shall keep his seat until the president leaves his chair.



## APPENDIX III.

## EDUCATION SOCIETY.

At a meeting holden at Grace Church in Providence, June 11, 1834, for the purpose of forming a State Society for the education of young men for the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Rev. Mr. Nash was called to the chair, and opened the meeting with prayer. Rev. Mr. Burgess was appointed Secretary.

The following resolution, offered by Rev. Mr. Clark, was passed.

Resolved, that it is expedient that a Society be formed in this State, for the education of pious and gifted, but indigent young men, for the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

The following constitution prepared for the proposed Society, together with By-Laws for the government of its directors, was offered by Rev. Mr. Clark.

## CONSTITUTION

## OF THE

*Protestant Episcopal Rhode-Island Education Society.*

1. This Society shall be denominated the Protestant Episcopal Rhode-Island Education Society, the object of which shall be to educate pious young men for the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

2. Any person who shall subscribe and pay one dollar per annum, may thereby become a member of this Society.

3. There shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting of this Society, a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, Treasurer, and ten Directors.

4. The President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer of this Society, shall be, ex officio, members of the Board of Directors. Nine of this board shall form a quorum at any meeting regularly convened.

5. Any person by paying five dollars, and signifying his intention to pay the same amount annually for six years, may thereby become and continue a member of the Board of Directors, during the period of his subscription.

6. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all the dues of the Society, and make such a disposition of the funds as he shall be directed by the Board of Directors, and shall annually render to the Society a written account of the same, the account to be previously examined and approved by a committee appointed for that purpose by the Board of Directors; and he shall also render an account of the state of the funds to the Board whenever required.

7. The duty of the Secretary shall be to keep a minute of the proceedings of the Society, and to give notice of all meetings of the Society, and of the Board of Directors.

8. This society shall have an Annual Meeting on the Tuesday evening of the meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode-Island, and not less than fifteen members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Society. Every meeting of this society and of the Board of Directors shall be opened with prayer.

9. It is recommended to all parishes in the diocese to form auxiliary societies, and every auxiliary society shall be entitled to send three delegates to the annual meeting of this body, and, after having exhibited certificates of their having been duly appointed, shall take their seats, and be allowed to participate in all its deliberations.

10. All auxiliary societies shall pay their funds into the hands of the Treasurer of this Association; each society raising seventy-five dollars shall have the right of nominating their own beneficiary, and one beneficiary for every seventy-five dollars which they may pay into the general fund. Provided that the persons nominated possess the qualifications hereafter specified.

11. The Board of Directors shall meet quarterly, on the Monday before the second Tuesday in March, June, September and December, and shall have power to supply any vacancy that may occur in their own Board, or in any office of this society, till its next annual meeting.

12. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to use their best exertions to increase the funds of the society, and they shall have the power of appropriating all monies to the support of Beneficiaries; of examining and selecting candidates for patronage; of passing such rules and by-laws as they may think proper; and generally of transacting all business necessary for the furtherance of the objects of this society. The Directors shall also keep a fair record of their proceedings, and annually make a report of their transactions to the society.

13. No applicant to the society for aid, shall be assisted who shall not produce unequivocal testimonies of piety, promising talents, and inability to educate himself; nor shall any person be continued a beneficiary of this society whose instructor or instructors cannot furnish satisfactory evidence that in point of talent, diligence, literary progress, morals and piety, he is a proper character to receive aid from these sacred funds. In addition to which, each beneficiary, after his admission into any College, shall annually exhibit to the Directors a written declaration, that it continues to be his serious purpose to devote his life to the gospel ministry in the Protestant Episcopal Church.

14. No person shall be considered a candidate for assistance who has not pursued classical studies for at least three months, and who has not attained to fourteen years of age.

15. No person shall be patronized who is not in the way of obtaining a thorough classical and theological education—that is, either preparing to enter College, or a member of some approved academy or college, where a thorough classical course is pursued, or engaged in theological studies with the design of taking a regular three years course.

16. All, in every stage of their education, shall be regarded as standing upon their character, and shall be liable to have their patron-



age discontinued for improper conduct of any kind, at the discretion of the Directors.

17. Any person who has been assisted by this society, and whose name shall be stricken from the list of beneficiaries because of misconduct, or other deficiency in regard to the qualifications required by the constitution and the rules of the directors, or who shall have concluded not to devote himself to the ministry, shall within a reasonable time refund the sum expended for his education, with lawful interest, whenever required by the directors.

18. If any young man under the patronage of this society, shall enter into the marriage state during his preparatory course for the ministry, then his appropriations shall cease.

19. Every beneficiary of this society should regard it as an object to grow continually in the spirit of enlightened devotion, and of fervent piety, deeply impressed with the sentiment, that without this all his other acquisitions will be comparatively of little worth either to himself or to the Church of Christ. It is therefore affectionately and earnestly recommended to every beneficiary, that he daily spend a portion of time in devout meditation, reading the scriptures with a view to a personal and practical application, and in humble and fervent prayer.

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The above Constitution, being proposed article by article, was adopted.

On motion, it was resolved that a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of adding an article in reference to refunding on the part of the beneficiaries; said committee to report at the next annual meeting. Wherefore Messrs. Wheaton, Clark and Cooke, were appointed said committee.

The consideration of the proposed By-laws was referred to the Board of Directors.

The following officers were then elected. Rev. Dr. Crocker, President; Rev. Laban Wheaton, John A. Clark and Sylvester Nash, Vice-Presidents; Alexander Jones, Esq. Treasurer; Rev. James W. Cooke, Secretary; Messrs. John Taylor, Robert H. Ives, Daniel Greene, Robert Johnson, Samuel Whitehorne, Joseph Child, Samuel Greene, Lemuel C. Richmond, Jared Whipple and David Lefavour, Directors.

The Bishop, having entered during the proceedings, was called to the chair before the adoption of the Constitution.

The meeting was adjourned till after the morning session of the Convention.

GEORGE BURGESS, *Sec'ry.*

JOURNAL

OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE

FORTY-FIFTH

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

IN THE

STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND,

HELD IN ZION CHURCH, NEWPORT, ON TUESDAY, JUNE 9TH,  
AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10th, A. D. 1835.

PROVIDENCE:  
MARSHALL, BROWN & CO.  
1835.

W. MARSHALL & CO. PRINTERS,  
Providence, R. I.

## LIST OF CLERGY IN RHODE-ISLAND.

REV. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church,  
Bristol.

REV. JOSEPH M. BROWN, Rector of St. James' Church,  
Woonsocket.

\*REV. PALMER BROWN, Deacon, residing at Woonsocket.

\*REV. LEMUEL BURGE, residing at North-Kingstown.

NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church,  
Providence.

REV. JOHN A. CLARK, Rector of Grace Church, Providence.

REV. JAMES W. COOKE, Deacon, Minister of Christ's  
Church, Lonsdale.

REV. ERASTUS D'WOLF, Deacon, Minister of St. Luke's  
Church, Tower Hill.

REV. JOHN P. FENNER, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Ports-  
mouth.

REV. GEO. W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church,  
Warren.

REV. EPHRAIM MONROE, Minister of Immanuel Church,  
Mannsville.

REV. SYLVESTER NASH, Rector of St. Luke's Church, East-  
Greenwich.

REV. FRANCIS PECK, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Wickford.

REV. JAMES M. PRATT, Minister of Christ's Church, Paw-  
catuck.

REV. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Paw-  
tucket.

REV. JOHN WEST, Rector of Zion's Church, Newport.

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\* Not members of the Convention, agreeably to the 2d Article of the  
Constitution.

REV. SALMON WHEATON, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.  
 REV. J. M. NILES, of the Diocese of New-York, officiating  
 at Kingston.

### LIST OF LAY DELEGATES,

*Certificates of whose election by their respective Churches, were  
 presented and approved.*

PROVIDENCE.—*St. John's Church.* Alexander Jones, Zachariah Allen, William G. Goddard, Austin Gurney—*Grace Church.* George S. Wardwell, Richmond Brownell, Resolved Waterman, Caleb Drown.

NEWPORT.—*Trinity Church.* Stephen H. Cahoone, Robert Johnson, William M. Evans, Andrew A. Harwood.—*Zion's Church.* Stephen T. Northam, Samuel Whitehorne, George W. Sayer, Charles H. Mumford.

BRISTOL.—*St. Michael's Church.* William Pearce, Lemuel C. Richmond, Benjamin Hall, John G. Harding.

WICKFORD.—*St. Paul's Church.* Joshua B. Rathbone, William A. Shaw, Jacob Smith, David U. Hagan.

PAWTUCKET.—*St. Paul's Church.* Thomas Lefavor, Enoch Goff, Samuel Fairbrother, George Mumford.

WARREN.—*St. Mark's Church.* George Pearce, Hail Collins, Henry Bailey, George Wheaton.

TOWER HILL.—*St. Luke's Church.*—William Henry Hazard.

WOONSOCKET.—*St. James' Church.* Samuel Green, Eli Pond, Jr. Jesse Whiting.

PORTSMOUTH.—*St. Paul's Church.* Joseph Childs, Geo. Faulkner, Benjamin Green, J. M. Keith.

EAST-GREENWICH.—*St. Luke's Church.* David Pinniger, Emery Fiske, Kingsley Bullock, Daniel Green.

LONSDALE.—*Christ's Church.* Timothy W. Dexter, Christopher C. Dexter, Jeremiah Whipple.

WESTERLY.—*Christ's Church.* William S. Thurston, Rowse Babcock, Jr. Edward W. Babcock, George D. Cross.

KINGSTON.—*St. Peter's Church.* Wilkins Updike, Jefferson Perkins, Thomas J. Keech.

MANNSVILLE.—*Immanuel Church.* Stephen Ervin.



NEWPORT, TUESDAY, June 9th, 1835.

This being the day constitutionally appointed for the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Rhode-Island, Morning prayer was attended in Zion's Church, at half past 8 o'clock, A. M. being the place appointed by the last Convention. Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, after which, proceeded to organize the Convention. The Right Rev. Bishop being absent, the Rev. Dr. Crocker was appointed to take the Chair.

The following Clergy, being all who were entitled to seats, answered to their names, viz: Rev. John Bristed, Joseph M. Brown, Nathan B. Crocker, D. D., John A. Clark, James W. Cooke, Erastus D'Wolf, John P. Fennner, George W. Hathaway, Ephraim Monroe, Sylvester Nash, Francis Peck, James Pratt, George Taft, John West, and Salmon Wheaton.

As also the following Lay Delegates, viz: Alexander Jones, William G. Goddard, Stephen H. Cahoone, Robert Johnston, William M. Evans, Andrew A. Harwood, William Pearce, Lemuel C. Richmond, Benjamin Hall, John G. Harding, Joshua B. Rathbone, Jacob Smith, Enoch Goff, Samuel Fairbrother, George Mumford, George S. Wardwell, George Pearce, Hail Collins, William Henry Hazard, Jesse Whiting, Joseph Child, George Faulkner, Benjamin Greene, Jr., M. Keith, David Pinniger, Emery Fiske, Kingsley Bullock, Stephen T. Northam, Samuel Whitehorne, George W. Sayer, and Charles H. Mumford.

The Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. was elected President of the convention, and the Rev. George W. Hathaway, was re-elected Secretary.

The further proceedings of the Convention, were here suspended, to attend public worship. The ante-communion service was read, by the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, and the Convention Sermon preached, by the Rev. Mr. Clark, after which, the holy communion was administered by the Rev. Mr. Wheaton, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Crocker.

The services of the Sanctuary being concluded, the business of the Convention was resumed. The proceedings of

the last Convention, and the Constitution were read. Rev. Messrs Bristed and Clark, and William G. Goddard Esq. were appointed a Committee on the admission of new Churches.

The above Committee made report, that testimonials, agreeable to the canons, had been presented to them, of the organization of the following Churches, which desired admission into this Convention: viz. Christ's Church, Westerly, St. Peter's Church, Kingston, and Immanuel Church, Mannsville; whereupon it was moved, that said report be accepted, and the Churches named be admitted into the Convention.

The following persons, then presented Certificates of their election, as Lay Delegates from said Churches, and took seats: viz. Christ's Church Westerly—William T. Thurston, Rowse Babcock, Jr. George D. Cross. St. Peter's Church Kingston—Wilkins Updike, Jefferson Perkins,—Thomas J. Keech.

*Resolved*, That the rules of order, adopted by the last Convention, be also adopted as the rules of order, for this Convention. (See Appendix, B.)

*Resolved*, That the several committees be appointed, according to the order of last year.

Rev. Messrs. Bristed and Hathaway, and S. T. Northam, Esq. were appointed a committee to report on the unfinished business of the Convention. Adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M.

## TUESDAY, 3 o'clock P. M.

Convention met according to adjournment.

After Prayers, by the President, the minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The Parochial Reports were now recieved and read. (See appendix A.)

On motion, made and seconded, that the Parochial reports just received and read, be accepted, a debate ensued, which was suspended by the adjournment of the Convention, until to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Convention met according to adjournment.

After Prayers, by the Rev. Mr. Nash, the proceedings of the last session were read and approved.

*Resolved*,—That visiting Clergymen be entitled to take seats in the Convention; when the Rev. Mr. Niles of New-York, and Mr. Goodwin of Massachusetts, took seats.

The motion made yesterday, and debated, with respect to the reception of the Parochial Reports, was again taken up, and further debated, when it was voted, that said Reports be accepted.

*Resolved*, unanimously,—That the Parochial Reports be published. The Rev. Messrs Bristed and Hathaway, and George S. Wardwell, Esq. be a committee to review the Parochial Reports, and make report to the Convention.

*Resolved*,—That the next annual Convention be held at St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich.

The Convention adjourned, to offer an opportunity for the Education Society to hold their annual meeting. (See Appendix, F.)

After the adjournment of the Education Society, the Convention again resumed its business. The Rev. Messrs Fenner, Nash, and West, and Judge Childs and Mr. Perkins were appointed a committee, to nominate Clergymen, to be appointed to preach the Convention and Missionary sermons, for the next annual Convention.

The committee on unfinished business made out the following Report:—"That the last Diocesan Convention for the Eastern Diocese, referred to the action of the several State Conventions, the alterations in several of the Rubrics, as proposed by the last General Convention, and communicated through the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold, by the Secretary of the General Convention, viz:

1. *Resolved*,—the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies concurring,—that it be made known to the several Diocesan Conventions, that it is hereby proposed for adoption, at the next General Convention, to insert the following Rubric, after the "Prayer to be used at the meetings of Convention."—"During the period of the session of any General

or Diocesan Convention; the above prayer may be used by all the congregations of this Church, or of the Diocese concerned;" the clauses "*here assembled in thy name and presence,*" being changed to "*now assembled in thy name and presence;*" and the clause "*govern us in our present work;*" to govern *them* in their present work."

*Resolved*,—The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies concurring,—that it be made known to the several Diocesan Conventions, that it is hereby proposed for adoption, at the next General Convention, to insert the said Prayer and Rubric at the end of the Prayers, upon several occasions, to be used before the two final prayers of morning and evening service. (See Journal of General Convention, 1832, pp. 92 and 57.)

*Resolved*, That, with the concurrence of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, it be made known to the conventions of the several Dioceses, that it is hereby proposed to alter the Rubric before the selection of Psalms, so as to read, "the following selections of Psalms, or any one or more Psalms, or any portion of the 119th Psalm in the Psalter, may be used instead of the Psalms, for the day, at the discretion of the minister." And that the fourth paragraph of the "Order how the Psalter is appointed to be read," be erased. (See Journal of General Convention, 1832, pp. 93, 94.)

*Resolved*,—The House of Clerical and Lay Deputies concurring,—that it be made known to the Conventions of the several Dioceses, that it is hereby proposed to alter the last Rubric before the communion service, by substituting the word right for the word worth. (See Journal of General Convention, 1832, pp. 93, 94.)

Your committee also report, that an amendment to the third article of the Constitution of the Church in this State, was proposed at the last Convention, and remains to be acted upon by this Convention.

Your committee would further report, that the Church in this State, are indebted, for a pledge given to the Diocesan Convention, for the support of an assistant, to the Bishop for the years 1832 and 1833, and your committee would



recommend, that measures be taken for the liquidation of the aforesaid unredeemed pledge.

Your committee would also suggest the propriety of appointing a committee, to devise and report some method for rendering our Annual Conventions more interesting, and profitable to the Church.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN BRISTED,  
GEO. W. HATHAWAY,  
STEPHEN T. NORTHAM.

The above report was accepted.

It was *resolved*, That the alterations proposed in the first resolution of the General Convention, as contained in the foregoing report, be approved by this Convention; that the alteration in the second resolution be *not* approved, and that in the third, be approved

*Resolved*, That the Convention assume, the pledge of one hundred dollars, made in behalf of the Church in this State, toward the support of an assistant to the Bishop, for the years 1832 and 1833.

The Rev. Messrs. Pratt, West and Crocker, and Wilkins Updike, Alexander Jones, Andrew A. Hayward and Rowse Babcock, Jr. were appointed a committee to devise and report some method, to render our Conventions more interesting and profitable to the Church.

*Voted*, That the Treasurer be directed to pay the Secretary's bill of postage for the last year.

The Rev. Messrs. Clark and Hathaway, and George S. Wardwell, Esq. were appointed a committee for publishing the Journal of the Convention.

*Voted*, That the Secretary be authorized to have the manuscript of the Journal prepared for the press, at the expense of the Convention.

*Resolved*, That 2000 copies of the Journal be published, and that each Church be allowed at least one hundred, and that the remaining numbers be left at the disposition of the publishing committee.

The Treasurer made his annual Report, (see Appendix



C.) which, having been audited by a committee, was accepted.

George S. Wardwell, Esq. was re-elected Treasurer, for the year ensuing.

Stephen T. Northam, Andrew A. Harwood, George S. Wardwell, and William G. Goddard, Esq'rs. were appointed a committee on the finances of the Convention.

The Convention adjourned to meet at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, P. M.  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2 o'clock.

Convention met according to adjournment.

The minutes of the preceding session were read and accepted.

Proceeded to the election of a Standing Committee for the ensuing year; and the following persons were elected: Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D., Rev. George Taft, and Rev. George W. Hathaway, of the Clergy; Benjamin Cowell, Resolved Waterman, and George Mumford, Esq'rs. of the Laity.

The following persons were elected Delegates to the next General Convention, viz:—Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D.D. Rev. John West, Rev. Sylvester Nash, and Rev. George Taft, of the Clergy; Edward S. Wilkinson, Alexander Jones, Wilkins Updike, and Rowse Babcock, Jr. of the Laity.

*Resolved*, That the Standing Committee be authorized to fill any vacancy in the delegation to the General Convention.

The committee appointed on the finances of the Convention, made the following report:

Whereas, at the annual meeting of Diocesan Convention, holden in Trinity Church, Boston, Sept. 26, 1832; it was resolved, that the sum of \$400 be raised for providing for an assistant minister to the Bishop; and whereas, the Church Delegates from this State, namely, the Rev. Dr. Crocker and the Rev. Mr. Bristed, did pledge themselves to raise one hundred dollars toward the above sum, which pledge on their part has been redeemed by themselves, and now assumed by this Convention. We therefore recom-

mend that the following sums be apportioned among the churches, then represented in the Convention, from this State, and be repaid to the said Crocker and Bristed.

Your committee beg leave, at the same time in the spirit of the report made at the Diocesan Convention of 1833, upon a similar subject, to subjoin the expression of an opinion, that although we disclaim the legal right of taxation, we have a surer hold upon the resources of the Church in this State, in the self-respect and concern it ought to feel, for the proper support of every branch of its ecclesiastical interest. And do apportion the following sums:

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Trinity Church, Newport,         | \$17 50 |
| St. Michael's do. Bristol,       | 12 25   |
| St. Mark's do. Warren,           | 10 50   |
| St. John's do. Providence,       | 21 00   |
| Grace do. do.                    | 21 00   |
| St. Paul's do. North-Providence, | 10 50   |
| St. Paul's do. South-Kingstown,  | 5 25    |
| St. Luke's do. Tower Hill,       | 3 50    |

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\$101 50

The committee would further report, that the same principle as expressed above, has actuated them in apportioning the sum necessary for defraying the incidental expenses of this Convention, for printing the Journal, &c.

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Trinity Church, Newport,         | \$12 50 |
| Zion do. do.                     | 12 50   |
| St. Michael's, do. Bristol,      | 8 75    |
| St. Mark's do. Warren,           | 7 50    |
| St. John's do. Providence,       | 15 00   |
| Grace do. do.                    | 15 00   |
| St. Paul's do. North Providence, | 7 50    |
| St. James' do. Woonsocket,       | 3 75    |
| St. Paul's do. North Kingston,   | 3 75    |
| Christ's do. Lonsdale,           | 3 75    |
| St. Luke's do. East Greenwich,   | 5 00    |
| St. Paul's do. Portsmouth,       | 3 75    |
| Christ's do. Westerly,           | 3 75    |
| St. Luke's do. Tower Hill,       | 2 50    |
| St. Peter's do. Kingston,        | 2 50    |

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107 50

All which is respectfully submitted by

S. T. NORTHAM for the Committee

Newport, June 10th, 1835.

The Committee to nominate Clergymen to preach the Convention and Missionary Sermons for the next annual Convention, report the following;—That the Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. and the Rev. George W. Hathaway, his substitute, preach the Convention sermon; and the Rev. John West, and the Rev. James Pratt, his substitute, preach the Missionary sermon.

Which Report was accepted, and the clergymen nominated were accordingly elected.

The Rev. John B. Fenner, and the Rev. James W. Cooke, his substitute, were appointed to preach the Sunday School sermon.

The business of the Convention was suspended, to offer opportunity for the annual meeting of the Rhode-Island Episcopal Sunday School Union; and the Society for the benefit of the Widow's and Orphans of deceased Clergymen.

The business of these societies being finished, (See appendix D and E) the Convention again resumed its proceedings.

*Resolved*,—That the Constitution of the Society for the relief of the Widow's and Orphans of deceased Clergymen, be published with the Journal of this Convention.

The Committee appointed to devise and report some method for rendering the future meetings of this Convention more interesting and more profitable to the Church, respectfully report the following recommendations.—1. That at the opening of each Convention, the Bishop or person who may preside, be requested by the Convention rigidly to enforce the rules of order, and especially, that which says, “no person shall speak more than twice on the same question, without leave,” and that he be assured, that the Convention will support him in pursuing this course.

2. That the business of the Convention be transacted in the same order, as at the Convention of 1835,—holden at Newport.

In relation to religious services, they would recommend, that during the sitting of the Convention, there should be continued public exercises in some place, apart from that where the business meetings are held; as many persons

from neighboring places attend upon these occasions, it is thought by your committee, that this last suggestion will tend much to increase the interest and usefulness of the Conventions in this State.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES PRATT,

In behalf of the Committee.

Which report was accepted.

The following resolution was presented by Wilkins Updike, Esq. which, after debate, was postponed to the next Annual Convention:

*Resolved*, That at the meeting of the next Annual State Convention, said Convention organize in conformity to the usages of the Legislature of this State. The clerical delegates to assemble in the Senate Chamber, at East-Greenwich, the Bishop, ex-officio, President thereof, and in his absence, the senior member present, to preside. The Lay delegates to assemble in the Representatives' Chamber, and organize by choosing Speaker and Clerk.

The Rev. Messrs. Crocker, Clark and West were appointed a committee to draw up a report of the state of the Church in Rhode-Island, for the use of the next General Convention.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Convention were then read, and approved.

After singing the 133d, Ps., and Prayer and Benediction, by the President, the Convention adjourned sine die.

GEO. W. HATHAWAY, *Secretary*.



## APPENDIX A.

### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BRISTOL.

REV. JOHN BRISTED, RECTOR.

The undersigned reports to the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in Rhode-Island, during the last year, *five* persons have been baptised; *two* adults and *three* infants; marriages *three*; burials *ten*; communicants added, *eleven*; of which *two* dead and *one* removed, leaves the whole number of communicants *two hundred and twenty eight*. As a counterpoise, for the present cold and lifeless state of the Church, we must remember with gratitude the divine blessing, in years that are past; and that we have now twice the number of communicants, and *more* than twice the number of hearers, found at the close of the year 1829, when the undersigned first took charge of the Parish. The religious services are, on the Lord's day, prayer and preaching three times; a Bible class, Tuesday evening; a conference-meeting Saturday evening; a Missionary concert-meeting, on the first Monday of each month; a prayer-meeting by the female communicants, on the Monday evening of each week, except the first; occasional prayer-meetings by the male communicants; together with as much Pastoral visiting as the Rector's impaired health, and incessant occupation will allow. On the Wednesday of each week, the female Missionary Society meets to work for the R. I. Clerical Convocation, into whose treasury, they have poured two hundred and fifty dollars, during the last year. Our Education Society, sustains at Bristol College, in Pennsylvania, a Beneficiary, with a view to his taking orders in our Church. For an account of the Sunday School, reference is made to the report of the Superintendent, who meets the Teachers for mutual improvement, on Friday evening of each week.



Is it not lamentable, to see so much *unsteadiness* in the Religion of professing Christians? to see sometimes, much good affected in a brief period; then perceive professors, so soon, become weary of well doing, sink down into a long season of coldness and barrenness and apathy? *Why* do they thus *invalidate* the *promises*, recorded in the word of God? Jehovah promises to *all* faithful believers, that they themselves, shall continually grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and likewise, be instruments in his hand, to wake up their perishing fellow sinners from natural death-sleep, in trespasses and guilt, into spiritual life. Now if these promises *are* believed, and acted upon, how is it, that in our churches, there are so many long intervals of drowsiness and deadness, with an occasional short season of excitement and revival? In a *real* revival of religion, professors merely do, what they ought always to do—love God and care for the souls of men. Every believer is required, both by the law and the Gospel, to love God, with *all* his heart, and soul, and mind and strength; and to love his neighbor as himself. Is it allowable to intermit these duties? to love God much at *one* time, and love him little, at *another* time? Is it allowable, at *one* time to be anxious for the salvation of sinners; and at another time to care nothing about their eternal interests? are their souls in danger today and not in danger tomorrow; or the next week—or month—or year—if still unconverted? *Why* should professors watch and pray, and labor, for their conversion at one time, and do nothing for their conversion at another time? A revival of religion always implies a previous declension of religion in the hearts of professors;—implies that they have grown cold, and careless and lukewarm, and worldly minded. If Professors generally, were awake at all times, to a sufficient sense of *their own* duties and privileges, and the precious promises of God, there would be no occasion for the periodical excitement, and momentary movements now known under the name of revivals.

But the whole Church of God would be so enlightened in their understanding,—so fortified in their resolution;—

so full of faith, and love and zeal, and patience and perseverance, that instead of occasional excitements, followed by long and dreary intervals of drowsiness, and sloth, and deadness, the waters of salvation would flow onward, in a continual calm and peaceful current—wafting in one unbroken, untroubled stream into the ark of safety, multitudes of immortal souls;—until the whole earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

JOHN BRISTED, *Rector*.

June 9th, 1835.

REPORT OF ST. MICHAEL'S SUNDAY SCHOOL, BRISTOL.

The school is composed of 1 Superintendant and 1 Assistant, 1 Librarian and 1 Assistant; and is divided into 29 classes; 13 male and 16 female, which will average 6 scholars to a class; whole number of scholars about 175, of whom about 150 attend regularly in good weather. Our studies consist of the Union Questions; Hymns and portions of Scripture committed to memory. 26 of the teachers are professors of religion. There is a Bible class of young ladies, all of whom with their teacher, appear to take great interest and satisfaction, in the study of the Scriptures. There are 2 colored classes, who are very anxious to improve, and get their lessons well. The teachers meet once a week, in which duties, much interest is manifested in hearing and asking questions, and comparing the Scriptures, &c.

There appears to be an increasing interest, in both teachers and scholars, for the gaining of instruction. Our school has never been better attended than the last year. Though we cannot say that there has been any conversions since our last report, yet we feel not discouraged, but glad of an opportunity of endeavoring to direct the youthful mind to their CREATOR, and hoping in his mercy and the merits of the blessed Saviour, that he will grant unto us his saving grace, that many may yet be led to embrace him, as their *all*, and in *all*, to the salvation of the *soul*, for which we humbly ask an interest in your prayers.

Respectfully yours,

GEO. B. MONRO,

*Assistant Superintendant.*

Our Library contains about 400 volumes.

## ST. JAMES' CHURCH, WOONSOCKET FALLS.

REV. JOSEPH M. BROWN, RECTOR.

In presenting a report of this Parish, the writer cannot tell of such signal blessings, as have fallen upon others; yet, he feels that there is abundant cause for gratitude and praise. Angels rejoice over one sinner that repenteth, and we give glory to God, that some precious souls have been "plucked as brands from the burning," and have been made to rejoice in believing in a crucified Saviour.

Four individuals have been admitted into the church. The present number of communicants is thirty. There have been four baptisms—six confirmations—fourteen marriages—and fifteen funerals.

One of the most important points in which the goodness of God has been manifested, and which deserves particular notice at this time, and which should cause the heart of every Christian to glow with gratitude to the Great Giver of every good and perfect gift, is the fact, that a number of persons, who have heretofore been more or less under the blighting influence of scepticism, have enlisted under the banner of Christ. Some have already become communicants, and others are evidently advancing in the good work.

It is a subject of remark, in the village, that the mild and charitable tone of the Church service, has softened many hearts, which have heretofore remained callous to the preaching of the Cross, by other denominations. However, we do not wish to glory in ourselves, or in our order, but in Christ, the Great Head of the Church, to whom with the Father and Holy Spirit be all the praise,

The services on Sunday, are generally well attended. A prayer-meeting is held on Monday evening. We have a Sunday School and a very interesting Bible Class, in which, I have passed some of my happiest hours; from which, there is reason to hope, that the happiest results will follow. On the first Monday evening of the month, it is our custom to meet for the purpose of particularly invoking the blessing of God upon Missions, and also to communicate missionary intelligence.

In regard to pecuniary matters, we are happy to state, that there has been some improvement. The Ladies' sewing circle, from the avails of their industry, have paid into the funds of the Convocation, thirty dollars and eighty cents. Within a few months, a juvenile circle has been formed, with a design to aid the Convocation.

For the salary of the minister, more than double the amount of any previous year, has been subscribed.

The Pews remaining unsold, and which rented last year for one hundred and thirteen dollars, rent this year for two hundred and ten dollars.

Thus, under the blessing of our Heavenly Father, while other denominations have been growing up around us, the interest for St. James' has not at all diminished; and that his favoring hand may still be nigh, to cause her to increase in numbers and graces, is the daily fervent prayer of the Rector.

JOHN M. BROWN.

June 9th, 1835.

### ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

REV. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. RECTOR.

The Records of St. John's Church, shews of Baptisms; Infants, 10; Adults, 10.

Of Communicants added, *nineteen*, besides a number from other churches. Whole number, about 170. Confirmed 27.

Marriages 12; Burials 11.

N. B. CROCKER.

June 9th, 1835.

### GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

REV. JOHN A. CLARK, RECTOR.

It is a truth upon which we are often led to reflect, and never without adoring admiration, that, "Tho' Paul plants and Appollos waters, God alone giveth the increase."—Every additional year's experience in the ministerial work, brings to us fresh proof, and augmented conviction, that it is not by human might, or power, but by the Spirit of God, that souls are won to Christ.

With this truth before us, upon a review of our labors uring the past year, we see new cause to adore the good-



ness of God ; for he has continued to bless the feeble instrumentality, that has been employed; and for his own glory, gathered new subjects of grace, from among the disobedient and rebellious.

Though during the last Conventional year, there has not been as large accessions to the list of our Communicants, as during some former years; and though death has smitten down some of the flock, and others have been removed from us by change of residence, the vacancies thus made, have more than been filled, by those who have left the ranks of the impenitent and given themselves up in Covenant to to the Lord.

The number of Communicants reported last year was 218. We are now able to report 266. As we have to record the decease of *six*, and the removal of *nine*, it will appear that 63 have been added during the year.

As my connection with this Parish is about to be dissolved, you will permit me here to record "to the praise of the Glory of God's 'grace,'" and for the encouragement of my successors, the following facts in relation to this interesting field of labor.

From Nov. 1832, to June 1833, there were added to our little band of communicants, then consisting of only 42, 117 new members. From June 1833, to June 1834, there were added 82, and from June 1834, to June 1835, as above stated, there have been added 63; making the whole accession during two years and seven months, 262 souls. Of these seventeen were members of other Churches, who brought from their respective Churches, certificates of their regular standing. Twenty-five had previously been communicants in the Episcopal Church. The remaining 220, have been brought from the world to take their place with the People of God. Though it must ever be expected, that Tares will be found among the Wheat, I believe that I may with truth, say, that the great body of our communicants, furnish by their consistent and devoted lives, strong reasons to lead us to hope, that they are "Such as shall be saved."

It is not among the least gratifying fruits of ministerial labor, in this Parish, that since my connection with it, the



attention of not less than six young men, has been directed towards the ministry, who are now, either actually engaged in preparation for the sacred office, or are designing speedily to enter upon preparatory studies.

During the past year, we think there has been among us an evident increase of Missionary Spirit. Besides liberal contributions to the young men's Bible Society, and the Society for the distribution of Tracts, in this city, the Ladies have contributed \$55, for foreign distribution among the Heathen. \$450, have been raised for supporting Missions in this State. \$175 for supporting a Missionary in Illinois. \$100 for the China Missions. \$100 for educating pious young men for the ministry; besides liberal donations to several other benevolent objects.

It is with deep and heartfelt regret, that I am led to yield, to what to me, appears manifest duty, in severing myself from this Parish and the beloved brethren who compose this Convention. To my latest day I shall retain for them, individually and as a body, the most affectionate remembrance. And I trust, that though laboring in another part of the Vineyard, I shall sometimes be remembered by them when they bow before the mercy seat in prayer.

The desultory statistical accounts, given above, will be better exhibited in the following tabular view.

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Communicants Nov. 1832. | 42  |
| Added up to June, 1833. | 117 |
| do do do 1834.          | 82  |
| do do do 1835.          | 63  |

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In all 304.

The present number is 266.

|                           |     |         |     |          |     |
|---------------------------|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| Baptisms up to June 1833. | 84  | Adults, | 55  | Infants, | 29  |
| do " June 1834,           | 85  | do      | 56  | do       | 29  |
| do " June 1835,           | 49  | do      | 29  | do       | 20  |
| <hr/>                     |     |         |     |          |     |
| In all                    | 218 | do      | 140 | do       | 78. |

Confirmations during the last year 40. Marriages 6. Burials 12. Confirmation during the above period has been administered to 216.

The Sunday Schools connected with this Parish continues to be in a flourishing condition.

Whole number of scholars, - - - - - 210

Average attendance, - - - - - 120.

Teachers; Males 12. Females 21; whole number 33.

Volumes in the Library 250.

There has been a good deal of seriousness among the children, since the last annual report, and not less than five have given evidence of true conversion.

The Adult colored school continues to be flourishing, and the instruction there delivered has been blessed, during the last year, to the salvation of several who have attended upon it.

Whole number of Scholars - - - - - 98

Average attendance - - - - - 56

Teachers - - - - - 21

June 9th. 1835. JOHN A. CLARK.

### CHRIST'S CHURCH LONSDALE-

REV. JAMES W. COOKE, MINISTER.

This parish, during the past year, has experienced renewed evidence of the goodness of the Lord. The effort, which at the last Convention, it was stated, was about to be made for the erection of a church, has proved successful. Through the kindness of friends in Providence, Newport, Bristol, Warren, and New-York, upwards of one thousand dollars have been contributed to this object; in addition to the sum subscribed by the parish, and by the Lonsdale Company. The church when finished will cost about six thousand dollars, being some what more than was at first contemplated, the proposed plan of the building having been subsequently enlarged. It is very similar in its structure and arrangement to the church in which we now are assembled,\* being fifty three feet wide, by seventy feet in length; containing ninety six pews on the lower floor and a spacious gallery at the end opposite the pulpit. The basement story of the church is already completed; and the lecture room will be occupied by the congregation on Sunday next. Besides the lecture room, the basement story-

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\* Zion Church, Newport.

contains a room for an infant Sunday School, and a vestry room. It is expected that the church will be ready for consecration by the last of July or the first of August. The Lonsdale Company, who with an enlarged liberality have already contributed two thousand dollars towards the erection of this church, have also engaged to present the Society with the lot on which the church stands, and to enclose it with a suitable fence.

This parish has been sustained up to the present time by the R. I. Convocation; after the consecration of the Church, it is expected that the parish will prove abundantly able to support itself; and it is hoped that the Convocation will find it an active auxiliary in their benevolent associations.

During the past year, upwards of two hundred dollars have been contributed to religious objects, this sum has been expended chiefly through the medium of the R. I. convocation, the Domestic and Foreign Missionsary Society, and the Sunday school. When it is remembered, that eighteen months ago there was not a single communicant of the church in this parish, and that *no* interest was felt in the cause of Missions, it will be seen that we have much reason for gratitude, that we have been enabled to do even thus much in the cause of the Redeemer. The burden, or rather I should say, the privilege, has fallen to the lot of a few, in comparison with the large congregation who worship here; but we trust that these have felt that it is indeed more blessed to give than to receive.

Of the above sum, more than one half has been raised by the ladies sewing circle, which is composed partly of subscription members, and partly of those who meet weekly, to work for the objects of the society. It is confidently hoped that in time, the ladies will be able to pay back into the treasury of the convocation all that the parish has received. We trust that they will regard this as a debt which will be cheerfully discharged.

A second branch of the sewing circle has been formed in a remote part of the parish, the proceeds of which will be chiefly devoted to foreign missions.

In spiritual things, we have not been so much blessed dur-

ing the past year, as in the year previous. Still we have much cause for gratitude. The congregation has gradually increased. There has been no time, when there have not been some inquiring the way of salvation. The number benefitted by the ministrations of the gospel in this parish, cannot be known from the reputed list of communicants. Some leave the village without connecting themselves with the church, and some unite with other denominations. There are at present, eight or nine candidates for baptism; and for admission into the church.

The Sunday School still continues a most interesting field of labor. Eight scholars have become pious during the past year, and two teachers.

The religious exercises during the week, in addition to those of Sunday, have generally been as follows.

On the first Monday evening of each month, the concert of prayer in behalf of missions, when a collection is taken up in aid of the object. On Tuesday evening of each week, a meeting especially for the seriously impressed. On Wednesday evening alternately, the lecture and Bible class. On Thursday evening, meeting of the Sunday School teachers, when the lesson for the following Sunday is made the subject of examination. On Friday evening, I have preached a few times in a remote part of the parish; I would also state, that there is now a Bible class, composed of upwards of 20 gentlemen and a few ladies, that meet on this evening, for mutual instruction, in the neighborhood of Arnoldsville. On Saturday afternoon there is a female prayer, meeting.

There have been baptized 14, (12 adults, 2 infants;) admitted to Communion 16; confirmed 33; deceased 2; present number of communicants 35; funerals 2; marriages 2; number of Sunday School scholars, including young ladies Bible class, 22, and others, 108; School No. 2, 30; Total 160. Teachers 17—5 males, 12 females.

JAMES W. COOKE, *Missionary*.

## ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, TOWER HILL.

REV. ERASTUS D'WOLF, MINISTER.

The undersigned would respectfully report to the Convention, his labors in the Vineyard of his Lord and Master.



My services, for the past year, have been divided, between three different places, each of which, I shall mention in order.

It is well known to most of this body, that I preached about seven months of the year in Westerly. A Parish was not organized while I was there, as it was not thought best by the friends of the Church. What the Lord has done for that beloved people, I leave for their present minister to state. While there, through the Lord's merciful goodness, some souls, I trust, were given me as seals of my ministry. Six became hopeful subjects of saving Grace. The only house of Worship in the village, was occupied a part of the time, by ministers of other denominations, it being a free house, and consequently, my labors were considerably interrupted. But I believe some little good was done in the name of Jesus. I sold and gave away many prayer books, and circulated many tracts.

I received last autumn, a unanimous call, from St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill, to become again their minister. This invitation was accepted. With new hopes and better prospects, I entered upon my duties. I believe the hand of God was in this measure. Souls have been awakened, and brought to the knowledge of the truth.

Eight Adults have been baptized. Several more are subjects of divine grace.

The present number of communicants, 17. The People of this long neglected Parish, begin in some measure, to awake to righteousness. They are building a Parsonage, which will cost several hundred dollars. It will, when finished be an ornament to the place, and a monument of the praise-worthy zeal of the few, who bear the burden. It is truly said, that this Parish is in a more prosperous condition, than it ever was before. We have a Sabbath School consisting of 30 children, and six pious teachers, and a Library, of about 40 volumes, We also have a Bible Class.

With respect to my third field of labor, the village of Kingston, I will briefly state; that for five months, I preached at this place. The Church was very little known, in this part of South Kingston, although many of the people were descendents from Church families.



The Lord seemed to open the way before us, and to make the path of duty plain. A Parish was organized, and my labors were not altogether in vain, in the Lord. In March, my Brethren of the Convocation met in the village; after two days services, the Convocation adjourned. But so great was the interest, upon earnest solicitation, some three or four brethren remained, some days preaching the Gospel to large congregations of awakened sinners, seeking the way of life and salvation; between forty and fifty were hopefully converted. Nineteen of which were added to the holy communion.

I left this station about four months ago. That the Lord would continue to add to this number, of such as shall be saved, is the humble prayer of their unworthy brother and servant in Christ. The whole number of Baptisms in the places mentioned above, 18 Adults. Burials 5. Marriages 6. Baptisms in St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill, 8 Adults. Present number of communicants 17.

ERASTUS D'WOLF.

Minister of St Luke's Church, Tower Hill.

June 9th, 1835.

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH.

J. P. FENNER, RECTOR.

The Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, respectfully reports to the Convention, that during the past year, (the second year of the existence of the Church) divine service, and the preaching of the Gospel, have been regularly maintained, twice on the Lord's day. In the evening, there has been a meeting for religious worship at private houses. The Sunday School has been maintained during the winter, as well as the summer, notwithstanding the difficulties attendant on doing so, among a scattered population. The Minister superintends the school, teaches a class in it, and always addresses the scholars. There is a Bible Class held weekly, which is open to all, and in which there is given a thorough course of instruction. There are also held a lecture in private houses during the week, a weekly meeting for prayer, for the Divine Blessing on the Ministers labors,

a monthly missionary meeting, and during the summer and autumn, a weekly meeting of the Convocation Society.

Fifty copies of the excellent and cheap edition of the Bible, published by the auxilliary New-York Bible and Prayer Book Society, have been sold, also Prayer Books, Bible question books and Bible Dictionaries, and works on experimental and practical piety, and religious and temperance tracts have been circulated.

The pews are nearly all either sold or let, and the time is not far distant, when it will be necessary to enlarge the Church. An eligible site has been purchased for a burial place, and the church is about to be raised and accommodations be provided under it, for the meetings of the vestry, of the Bible class and Sunday School.

Many and great obstacles render the progress of religion, and of the Church, in this place slow. It is however, steady and sure. There has been marked outward reformation; the Lord's day is more regarded; public worship is better attended; intemperance and immorality are diminishing; prejudices against the church are gradually wearing away; of this fact, almost every additional communicant, is a signal witness. The scriptural liberality of the church, which, while she is\* "firm as a rock in maintaining all the essentials of christianity," allows her members to differ harmoniously on subordinate subjects, and\* "discarding and detesting all pride and bigotry, sectarianism and party spirit, sets forward quietness, peace and love, among all christian people; her evangelical liturgy, so instrumental in preserving and reviving the true doctrines of Eternal Life," and in maintaining unity and order in her communion; and her form of church government, so analogous to that of the United States, and of the several states, giving the Laity their due influence in the concerns of the church, are begining to be known and appreciated, so that very many acknowledge that no other denomination coming in the form of a new congregation, would have been so well received in the community. The Liturgy is felt to be adapted to both the young convert

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\* Bishop Griswold's address to Convention, Eastern Diocese, 1835.

and the engaged christian, which prove that the charge of formality, so commonly alleged against it, arises from ignorance of its real character, and sometimes from a low state of piety, so far beneath its spirit, as to be inadequate to sympathise with its truly humble, but lofty devotion.

Particular regard is had by the minister of St. Paul's, to the youth and children, who are here, emphatically, "the hope of the church". Through the Sunday School and Bible classes, especially, there is disseminating abroad, a sound and thorough course of scripture instruction, which, under the influences of the holy and blessed spirit, is to renew and sanctify and save the rising generation. The tree of *spiritual* life is thus sending downward, and around its roots, and is ere long to shoot upward and spread abroad far and wide, its branches and foilage. Under its shade multitudes on multitudes in successive generations, are to rest and be refreshed by its fruit, until they sit down to repose forever, and "to eat of the tree of" eternal "life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

|                     |            |       |   |   |   |
|---------------------|------------|-------|---|---|---|
| Baptized, Adults 3. | Infants 1. | Total | - | - | 4 |
| Confirmed           | -          | -     | - | - | 6 |

Communicants added 6. Removed 2. Deceased 1.—  
Present number 15. Sunday School Teachers 5. Scholars  
20 to 45. Marriages 8. Burials 3.

J. P. FENNER.

June 9th, 1835.

## ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN.

REV. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, RECTOR.

Marriages 7; Burials 7; Baptisms—Adults 26; Infants 11; Total 37; Confirmed 63; added to the communion 36, present number of communicants 112.

God of his infinite mercy and goodness, continues to smile upon us; a delightful harmony prevails, and many temporal and spiritual mercies have been enjoyed. There has been during the year, a continued awakened attention to the interests of religion, and every month there have been some born, as we trust, into the Kingdom of Heaven, "witnessing a good confession before many witnesses," a good

degree of interest still continues, and, I trust, will as long as our little band of brethren continues as faithful and prayerful as many of them have thus far.

The enlargement of our church, spoken of in our last report, as commenced, has been completed; by which, the church with the pulpit and desk, has been much improved, and twenty-four pews added to the lower floor, besides an enlargement of the gallery. Twenty of the new pews have been sold, and the remainder rented. The church has been new-furnished with carpets, cushions &c., and a handsome set of new lamps. The congregation has considerably increased during the past year, and the church since its enlargement, is about as well filled as before.

Our Missionary Society is flourishing, and has been enabled to do twice as much, during the past year, as the previous ones; and that, entirely without solicitations, but, as *free will offerings*, at our monthly concerts of prayer.

Our Ladies' society continue their efforts, and are now laboring for missionary purposes, which they have not before done. Their labors of love, will, I trust, as I feel that they heretofore have done, redound with great good to themselves; and here I would remark, as a subject of deep regret, that *all* our Ladies cannot feel the *same* degree of interest. If all our Ladies in the different congregations, felt the same deep interest, that some feel, what a different aspect would our missionary operations, yea, our whole church assume.

Our Sunday School consists of 140 scholars, and 17 teachers, besides the superintendent and librarian. The Sunday School library containing 187 volumes. The teachers are furnished with a copy each, of the "Family Visiter," and such of the children as can read, with "The Children's Magazine," both published, at the Protestant Episcopal Press in New-York, and as we think, most important auxiliaries in the Sunday School. Our school has been very much blessed. *Twelve* of those who are and have been teachers, and *eight* scholars, have in the hope of charity, during the past year, been renewed in the spirit of their minds, and united themselves to the Church. Our ordinary religious



services, besides the morning and evening service in the church on Sundays, are, a social meeting in the lecture room on Sunday evening, as also on Thursday evening; a prayer meeting Tuesday evenings, as also a part of the year on Saturday evenings, and Sunday morning at 9 o'clock. We observe the monthly concert of prayer for missions, on the first Monday evening of every month, as also that for Sunday Schools, on the second Monday evening, and in connection with "the Warren Seamen's Friend's Society," the monthly concert of prayer for Seamen, on the third Monday which is participated in, by the other denominations, and held at the different houses of worship in rotation.

On Wednesday evening, I meet the young ladies Bible class, at the lecture room. All our meetings are generally well attended; have been highly spiritual and interesting, and much blest.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY.

June 9th, 1835.

### IMMANUEL'S CHURCH, MANSVILLE.

REV. EPHRAÏM MUNROE, MINISTNR.

The undersigned having engaged as missionary in the service of the R. I. Clerical Convocation, about the middle of July last, was employed for two months in supplying the destitute Parishes in the State. In September following, it being understood that the services of an Episcopal clergyman would be acceptable at Mansville, a village in Smithfield, about twelve miles north from Providence; and arrangements having been made for the purpose, I went there under the direction of the Convocation; and have since officiated in the place, with some few exceptions, regularly on Sundays. The services are held in a commodious building originally designed by the proprietors of the village, for the two-fold purpose of a school-house and place for public worship. The house, though not large, is neat and convenient, having a desk or pulpit, with a small gallery, and is gratuitously loaned to the use of the worshipers. Although at our commencement we found none among the people sufficiently familiar with the Prayer-Book, to lead



in the responses, and our services were entirely new to nearly all who attended, yet by a willingness to learn, on the part of many, they soon became able to bear a part in our common worship, and at present have much the appearance of an episcopal congregation. And although we have had in this place, no individual cases of interest, but the results that may have been produced, are entirely of a general character, yet we think there is evidently on the part of our hearers, more sober attention, and more of a disposition to listen to the preaching of the gospel than when we commenced. We have a Sunday School of seventy scholars, with six teachers.

It is the desire of the people in the village to have the gospel permanently established among them, and with this view, two or three meetings were held by them, during the past week. The result of which, after examining the Constitution and Canons of the general and State Conventions, was the organization of the Parish, to be known by the name of Immanuel's Church. The form of an act of incorporation, to be forwarded to the General Assembly, was drawn up, approved, and placed in the hands of a committee. A delegate was chosen to attend this Convention, and as has been witnessed by the proceedings of to-day, after presenting the usual testimonials, this parish has been admitted into union with this body. From the above brief sketch, it will be seen that this church has only commenced. We can only add that in this place there appears opened to us a door of usefulness; and we would commend our people and our efforts to the prayers and sympathies of those who enjoy the privileges of the gospel, and know the value of christian fellowship.

E. MUNROE.

## ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, EAST-GREENWICH.

REV. S. NASH, MINISTER.

With gratitude to the Author of grace, the undersigned would acknowledge that the hope expressed at the close of the last report, has been realised.

Thirty five members have been added to the communion, and others still, it is hoped, are enquiring. The Bible class

has been steadily continued, and the interest in it does not appear to abate. The ladies belonging to the sewing Society, have continued their exertions with untiring industry; and the Lord has blessed their labors. The Sunday School has been blessed, and is still, we trust, doing good; five of the teachers and ten of the scholars, are numbered among the converts of the past year. The monthly concerts have been regularly observed, and other occasional meetings have been held by the members for religious services.

The undersigned would remark, that in relation to this church, the circumstances which deserve notice, and call for peculiar gratitude to the head of the church, are, the continued operations of the Holy Spirit, the eminent success of the ladies sewing Society, and the goodness of God towards the Sunday School. There has been no time since the last Convention, when there were not some convicted sinners seeking mercy; and many give serious and constant attention to the services, who have not yet made known the state of their feelings. The ladies, from a very small and feeble beginning, have returned to the R. I. Convocation, nearly half of the money paid by the Convocation to the Rector. And as respects the Sunday School, the fact of so many conversions, speaks for itself

There have been of Baptisms, adults 24, infants 1; Confirmations 30; Funerals 8. Marriages 2; Removals 1.

There are now Communicants 41; Sunday School Scholars 76; with a Library of near 200 volumes.

S. NASH.

June 9th, 1835.

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WICKFORD.

REV. FRANCIS PECK, RECTOR.

The religious aspect of this parish, when a year since, as the Missionary of the Rhode-Island Convocation, I entered upon the discharge of my duties, was by no means encouraging. A combination of circumstances, unfavorable to the best interest of the church, had been long in operation; its most devoted friends were, in a great measure, discouraged from further effort. But the causes have been re-

moved; although at present, far behind many of our sister churches, of more recent organization. In reviewing the events of the past year, we have reason to thank God, and take courage. Any very material advance in this portion of our zion, must however, be the work of years, of patient, faithful, self-denying effort; with this, and the favor of Him, in whose hands are the hearts of all men, we think there can be no doubt of ultimate success.

There are several circumstances of encouragement, found in a more general attention to religion, a more reverent regard for the sabbath, and a more devoted spirit among those who are the professed followers of the Lord Jesus. A disposition is manifested to approach nearer to the standard of the christians duty and privilege.

Our services during the week, are, a lecture, and a meeting for the benefit of the teachers of our Sunday School. A portion of time is also set apart for conversation with those who may be enquiring for the way of life.

Recently, an effort has been made to carry the gospel into the adjacent country, where many, on account of distance and other causes, are prevented from attending services in the village. This effort has been successful. The Sabbath School enrolls about 60 scholars, nearly all of whom are in regular attendance; They are instructed by 11 teachers, several of whom have recently become hopefully pious.

Baptisms—adults 6; children 7. Original number of communicants 15; added 9; Confirmations 10; Marriages 2; Funerals 3.

FRANCIS PECK.

June 9th, 1835.

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, N. PROVIDENCE.

REV. GEORGE TAFT, RECTOR.

The Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Providence, reports to the Convention; 130 Communicants; 16 Baptisms; 15 Marriages; 130 Sunday School Scholars.

The congregation of St. Paul's Church has considerably increased, since the last Convention. A general seriousness prevails, and is increasing. Several have been added to the communion. The male and female members of the

Church, hold, separately, weekly prayer meetings, which are better attended than usual. Inquiry meetings on Monday evening. Monthly meetings have been established for prayer for the success of missions and for the communication of missionary intelligence. The meetings have been blessed to the creation of a good degree of pious missionary zeal among us. The female sewing circle is considerably enlarged, since last year. The ladies meet once a week; I usually meet with them and spend an hour in reading and prayer. These meetings have been found very profitable to our souls. The Sunday School has been reorganized, a better plan of instruction adopted, and promises to be more successful than heretofore; 400 volumes in the library.

Among the persons baptised, there was an uncommonly interesting case. It was a little boy, about eight years of age. He had been a long time sick; during his sickness, he became hopefully pious, and expressed a strong desire to receive the ordinance of baptism. After examining him and consulting with the methodist minister, who had seen him more often, I baptised him on his own confession of faith, in Christ crucified, and administered to him the sacrament of the Lord's supper. In the celebration of the Lord's Supper, with this sick and dying little boy, Methodists, Baptists, and Episcopalians united. It was an interesting effecting scene. Sectarian barriers were broken down; faith prevailed, and love abounded.

It becomes my painful duty to record the death of Samuel Slater, Esq. He contributed largely and cheerfully to the establishment of the Church in this place, and was for years, its firm friend, and munificent supporter. At the time of the establishment of the Church, there were but three Episcopalians in the village; he was one of the three.

GEORGE TAFT.

June 9th, 1835.

## CHRIST'S CHURCH, PAWCATUCK.

REV. JAMES PRATT, MINISTER.

It was in September, of the last year, that the subscriber was requested by the R. I. Convocation, to visit the village



of Pawcatuck, in the town of Westerly, and ascertain what were the prospects of advancing the cause of Christ in that village; after remaining there ten days, and preaching 12 or 15 times, my settled opinion was, that God would bless efforts made to establish his Church among that people.

It was under this conviction, that I attended the next Convocation, and found my brethren ready to make the sacrifice of time and expence to visit that place, and hold a series of religious services. Those meetings were abundantly blest. God did pour out his spirit upon us, and many sinners were brought in subjection to the foot of the cross, crying, "Lord save, or I perish." We organized ourselves on the 24th of Nov. 1834; taking the name of Christ's Church. We immediately after, organized a Ladies Sewing Circle, which is doing *well* in every sense of the word; and will do more the current year, than any one could have expected of them. We have a Tract Society in successful operation, supplying not only our own village, but the surrounding country; distribution is made monthly. Our Sunday School is an object of the deepest interest, to the paster of this new Church, and a source of the greatest encouragement. When we organized the school in November last, there were about 60 or 70 scholars; we have now 155, who are enroled, and who are in very regular attendance, omitting those who have left the school; and here I would remark, that our teachers are deeply interested, and as a necessary consequence, the scholars are so also; 6 or 8 scholars and 10 teachers have professed Christ, since our organization.

Our services are usually, preaching twice on the Sabbath, and conference meeting in the evening. On Tuesday afternoon the sewing circle meets. On Wednesday evening a conference meeting, which is fully attended and of increasing interest. On Friday evening, there is a female prayer meeting, which is of a deeply interesting character. On Saturday evening, we have a teachers meeting. By invitation, the undersigned preaches once in two weeks, about three miles from the village, in a vacant Baptist meeting-house.



We are now about building a suitable house of worship, which shall be dedicated to God, according to the forms of the Protestant Episcopal Church; by the liberal subscriptions of individuals in our own village, we have raised nearly two thousand dollars. We are about soliciting aid from our sister churches, and trust that their hearts and hands will be open to assist us, of what God has given them.

|                 |    |                     |     |
|-----------------|----|---------------------|-----|
| Adult Baptisms, | 34 | Sunday Scholars,    | 155 |
| Infant do.      | 3  | Average attendance, | 115 |
| In all          | 37 | Teachers—Female,    | 11  |
| Communicants,   | 39 | do. Male.           | 9   |
| Confirmed,      | 30 | Funerals,           | 3   |

JAMES PRATT.

June 9th, 1835.

## ZION CHURCH, NEWPORT.

REV. JOHN WEST, RECTOR.

This Parish, at its last annual report, was a missionary station. The congregation had then no fixed place of worship, but the new Church was in progress and near its completion, and the prospects of the parish appeared encouraging. A Sunday School had been organized, and the communicants amounted to 32.

The Rector has the satisfaction to report, on the present occasion, a very pleasing and unexpected progress in every department of this missionary Church. The new Church has been completed and consecrated; a majority of the pews have been disposed of, and a sufficient number sold or rented to meet the current expences of the parish, including the support of the minister, independently of missionary aid. It is due to the proprietors to add, that the whole amount of a debt, which remained after the first sale of pews, and which was due to persons not members of the parish, amounting to \$6,000, was subscribed among themselves as a loan to the parish, since which a number of pews have been sold and rented.

But we have still greater occasion for thanksgiving to God, for the spiritual favors conferred upon this infant Church. The indications of such a blessing, were alluded

to in the last report, and have been fully realized. A serious and prayerful improvement of the appointed means of grace, has prevailed in the congregation during the intervening year. The stated services have been, on Sunday the two regular services, and a third service during the winter season, and during the week a lecture; a meeting of the Sunday school teachers, a bible class, and occasional meetings for prayer and exhortation. The concerts of prayer for missions and Sunday Schools are, also now observed. I take pleasure also in mentioning the circumstance of some private associations for prayer among the female communicants, to which, aside from their happy influence on the individual members, and their being made a means of comfort and edification to the invalid members at whose houses they have been held, I attach no small importance, as an instrument in bringing down the divine blessings we have enjoyed.

A state of religious social improvement has followed the faithful use of those means in humble dependence on the divine promises. Accession of such, we trust, as shall be saved, have been made to the Church at every communion season during the year. The Sunday School is in a high state of prosperity; a spirit of christian beneficence has been manifested in contributions to various foreign as well as domestic objects; and a missionary spirit, which at first appeared among the children of the Sunday Schools, is becoming more general and lively; and we are happy to add this to the numerous instances recently made public from various portions of the Episcopal Church in this country, and which we deem the harbinger of a better and brighter day.

In reviewing the past, and observing the causes which have been instrumental in effecting so happy an improvement in the condition of the parish, we recognize, first of all, the Almighty spirit, by whom the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified, as the supreme author of all. Among secondary causes, we give a high place to the influence of Bible classes, social and private prayer meetings, and the entire Sunday School cause. But it is to the direct influence of the Convocation, that we owe the commencement

of that state of spiritual prosperity which has especially marked the past year, and which began immediately after the meeting of that body in this Church in August last, and has continued up to the present moment; we are highly indebted to this association, not only from its desired influence by a succession of faithful and united labors, but for the information derived on these occasions, respecting the means used by our brethren in the various Parishes, and which God has approbated by signal blessings. In a word, we have thus learned more fully, and been stimulated to practice more faithfully, the duties essential to a state of spiritual prosperity.

The following is an abstract of the Statistics of the Parish.

|   |    |     |   |   |   |    |     |
|---|----|-----|---|---|---|----|-----|
| Marriages   | -  | -   | - | - | - | -  | 2   |
| Burials   | -  | -   | - | - | - | -  | 11  |
| Baptisms, Infants 21; Adults 26;                  | -  | -   | - | - | - | -  | 47  |
| Confirmations                                     | -  | -   | - | - | - | -  | 47  |
| Communicants added 67; Removed 4; total           | -  | -   | - | - | - | -  | 95  |
| Sunday Scholars                                   | -  | -   | - | - | - | -  | 215 |
| Teachers  | -  | -   | - | - | - | -  | 38  |
| Vols. in Library                                  | -  | -   | - | - | - | -  | 300 |
| Contributed to Convocation for domestic missions, | \$ | 150 |   |   |   |    |     |
| Do for Education Society                          | -  | -   | - | - | - | \$ | 75  |
| Number of families, about                         | -  | -   | - | - | - | -  | 80  |

The ladies Convocation Society, consists of more than 100 members, by whose indefatigable industry nearly, \$ 100 have been contributed within two years, to the missionary cause.\* It is proper to state, that of the 67 communicants added as above, 10 have been transferred during the past Conventional year from Trinity Church in this town.

JOHN WEST,

Newport, June 9th, 1835.

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\* About one third of the members meet weekly for work, accompanied with religious reading, conversation and prayer; their meetings are personally edifying as well as useful to others. In this devoted portion of its members, the church, I am persuaded, has a sure resource as long as prayer and alms shall be required in her behalf. When even the Apostles had abandoned the Savior, the women were found at his cross and at his tomb.

## TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT.

REV. S. WHEATON, RECTOR.

Baptisms; Infants 11; Adults 8: Confirmations 11; Marriages 7; Burials 1; Communicants added 12; present number 115; Sunday School teachers 23; Pupils 190.

The employment of a missionary, and the consequent division of the Parish into two separate Churches, as was to be expected, has produced some change in the congregation; near twenty families and over thirty communicants, having left and attached themselves to Zion Church, while about an equal number of additional families have taken seats in Trinity.

Within the last year, Trinity Church has been thoroughly repaired, at an expense of over \$2000, and is now in excellent order. A subscription has just been commenced for repairing the organ, a fine toned instrument, which more than a century since, was presented to the Church by the celebrated Dr. Berkly, Bishop of Cloyne.

The Sunday School has increased in the number of its regular attendants, and is in a flourishing condition.

S. WHEATON.

June 9th, 1835.

## ST. PETERS CHURCH, KINGSTON.

REV. W. W. NILES, OFFICIATING.

As I have labored in Kingston but three weeks, I can only say, that the beginning which has been there made, by the brethren of the Convocation, has been greatly blessed of God. In connection with the meeting of that body last spring, it is hoped that thirty or more have given their hearts to Christ; twenty-three of whom are already received to the communion. Twenty were confirmed on Sunday after Ascension. Our christian females feel a strong desire to do what in them lies, to advance the gospel; and besides a weekly meeting for prayer, well attended, have organized a Convocation Society. A Sunday School of thirty-four scholars, eight teachers, and a sufficient library was commenced last Sunday. These dear christians are all "*Lambs*" of the flock; and they greatly need the sincere



milk of the word, that they may grow thereby. Any devoted man of God, who should take up his abode among them, would, I doubt not, find his heart greatly cheered by their love and ready obedience to the gospel, and his condition made comfortable, by their efforts for his support.

W. W. NILES, of the Diocese of New-York.

June 9th, 1835.

## STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

| NAMES OF CHURCHES. |                | BAPTISMS. |          |        | COMMUNICANTS.  |        |             | S. SCHOOL. |            |           |           |                 |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------|----------|--------|----------------|--------|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
|                    |                | Adults.   | Infants. | Total. | Confirmations. | Added. | Present No. | Burials.   | Marriages. | Teachers. | Scholars. | Vols. in Libr'y |
| St. Michael's      | Ch. Bristol,   | 2         | 3        | 5      |                | 11     | 228         | 10         | 3          | 31        | 175       | 400             |
| St. James's        | “ Woonsocket   |           |          | 4      | 6              | 4      | 30          | 15         | 14         |           |           |                 |
| St. Jonh's         | “ Providence   | 10        | 10       | 20     | 27             | 19     | 170         | 11         | 12         |           |           |                 |
| Grace              | “ do.          | 29        | 20       | 49     | 40             | 64     | 266         | 12         | 6          | 54        | 350       | 250             |
| Christ's           | “ Lonsdale     | 12        | 2        | 14     | 33             | 16     | 35          | 2          | 2          | 17        | 160       |                 |
| St. Luke's         | “ Tower Hill,  | 8         |          | 8      |                | 8      | 17          | 5          | 4          | 6         | 30        | 40              |
| St. Paul's         | “ Portsmouth,  | 3         | 1        | 4      | 6              | 6      | 15          | 3          | 8          | 5         | 40        |                 |
| St. Mark's         | “ Warren,      | 26        | 11       | 37     | 63             | 36     | 112         | 7          | 7          | 17        | 140       | 187             |
| Immaunel           | “ Mansville    |           |          |        |                |        |             |            |            | 6         | 70        |                 |
| St. Luke's         | “ E. Greenwich | 24        | 1        | 25     | 30             | 35     | 41          | 8          | 2          |           | 76        | 200             |
| St. Paul's         | “ Wickford,    | 6         | 7        | 13     | 10             | 9      | 24          | 3          | 2          | 11        | 60        |                 |
| St. Paul's         | “ Pawtucket    |           |          | 16     |                |        | 130         |            | 15         |           | 130       | 400             |
| Christ's           | “ Pawcatuck    | 34        | 3        | 37     | 30             | 39     | 39          | 3          |            | 20        | 155       |                 |
| Zion               | “ Newport      | 20        | 21       | 47     | 47             | 67     | 95          | 11         | 2          | 38        | 215       | 300             |
| Trinity            | “ do.          | 8         | 11       | 19     | 11             | 12     | 115         | 10         | 7          | 23        | 190       |                 |
| St. Peter's        | “ Kingston.    | 23        |          | 23     | 20             | 23     | 23          |            |            | 8         | 34        |                 |

## APPENDIX B.

### CONSTITUTION OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, IN THE STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND.

This church as a constituent part of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and also by Conventional agreement of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocess, accedes to the general constitution of this Church, and to the particular constitution of this Diocess, and acknowledges their authority.

#### ARTICLE II.

After divine service, the President and Secretary of the preceding Convention shall take their places, when it shall be the duty of the Secretary to call the names of the clergy, on the catalogue, and to receive and read the certificates of the lay delegates. The President and Secretary for the ensuing year shall then be chosen, and the minutes of the preceding Convention shall be read, and the necessary committees appointed.

#### ARTICLE III.

The Convention shall be composed of the officiating ministers settled in the

parishes in this State, and also of such ministers as are employed as instructors in any incorporated seminary of learning in this State, and of missionaries officiating within this State under the direction of the ecclesiastical authority of the State; and of lay members, consisting of one or more delegates not exceeding four from each parish, which shall have been recognised by the Convention, duly chosen by the vestry or congregation

#### ARTICLE IV.

New parishes shall be admitted into union with this Convention, on presenting to the Convention written evidence, under the authority of the wardens and vestry, that they are duly organized, and accede to the constitution and canons of the general Convention and also of the Convention of this State.

#### ARTICLE V.

The Bishop shall preside in the Convention; but when absent the President shall be chosen by the Convention.

#### ARTICLE VI.

A secretary shall be chosen upon the assembly of the State Convention from among the members thereof, who shall remain in office until the meeting of the next Convention, and until the appointment of a successor. His duty shall be to take minutes of their proceedings, to preserve their journals and record; to attest the public acts of the body, and faithfully to deliver into the hands of his successor all books and papers relative to the concerns of the Convention which may have been put into his possession. It shall also be his duty to give notice to each minister of the time and place appointed for the meeting of the succeeding Convention.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The members of the Convention present on due notification, and being duly organized, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. And in all matters which shall come before the Convention, the members shall deliberate in one body; and, in voting, shall vote by individuals. But if in any case it be required by any member, the two orders shall vote separately, and in such case the laity shall vote by congregations, and the concurrence of a majority of each order shall be necessary to constitute a decision.

### CANONS.

#### CANON I.

##### *Standing Committee.*

There shall be a Standing Committee consisting of three clergymen and three laymen, to be elected at each stated meeting of the Convention, who shall keep regular minutes of their proceedings subject to the inspection of the Convention; and shall continue in office until the election of a new committee. A majority shall constitute a quorum.

#### CANON II.

##### *Testimonial of Delegates.*

Lay delegates to the Convention shall present testimonials of their election, which shall be in conformity with the mode prescribed by the parish they represent, and signed by the parish clerk or secretary of the vestry.

#### CANON III.

##### *Testimonial of New Parishes.*

Delegates from new parishes applying for admission into the Convention, shall present a certificate signed by the parish clerk or secretary of the vestry, declaring that certain individuals have united in the formation of a parish, elected wardens and vestrymen, and other necessary officers, and adopted and taken measures to become incorporated under a charter formed in

accordance with the principles and usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, and that they accede to the General and State Constitution and Canons.

#### CANON IV.

##### *Provision for printing public documents.*

The Committee of the Convention shall, when directed, cause to be published, from the funds of the Convention, the proceedings of the stated meetings of this body, together with a list of the ministers of the church residing within the State, annexing the names of their respective cures, or stations, or if those who have no stated cure, or station, the place of residence; and also the constitution, canons and rules of order.

#### ARTICLE I.

There shall be a stated Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State on the second Tuesday in June, in each year, in such parish as shall be determined by the Convention.

#### CANON V.

##### *Neglect of Parochial Reports.*

In order to secure a full and accurate view of the state of the church, in case the requisitions of the 51st general canon on this subject are not complied with by the minister or other proper authority of any parish, it shall be the duty of the convention to cause inquiry to be made into its condition.

#### CANON VI.

##### *Offences for which ministers shall be tried and punished.*

Disorderly, scandalous and immoral conduct, neglect of duty, engaging in any worldly avocations, palpably incompatible with the clerical office, and the due discharge of pastoral duty, disregard of the constitution and canons of the general and state convention, a continued non-attendance at the annual convention of the church in this State, disseminating or countenancing opinions contrary to the doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, are offences for which a clergyman ought to be censured and for which when accused, he ought to be brought to trial.

#### CANON VII.

If any clergyman of this church offend in any one or more of the instances enumerated in the foregoing canon, complaint may be made thereof by any presbyter to the Annual Convention; and if, in the opinion of a majority of the presbyters present, there shall be sufficient cause for said complaint, it shall be their duty to furnish the accused with a copy of the charge or charges, specifying a time, not short of thirty days, when, and place where, he shall appear to answer to the same. No layman, however, shall act as advocate for either party on the trial, and if the major part of the presbyters present at the trial, after hearing the evidence, shall judge the accused person guilty of said charge or charges, their decision shall be made known to the Bishop, and he shall pronounce judgment accordingly.

#### CANON VIII.

To defray the contingent expenses of the Convention, a sum sufficient for this purpose shall be assessed upon the several parishes in proportion to the salaries of the respective ministers; for the payment of which several sums, each minister shall be made responsible.

#### RULES OF ORDER.

1. Every stated Convention shall be opened with prayer, the communion and a sermon; the preacher having been previously appointed by the Convention.

2. The morning service of the Church, or a special service appointed by the Bishop, shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention.

3. When the President takes the chair no member shall continue standing, or shall afterward stand up except to address the chair.

4. No member shall absent himself from the house unless he have leave or be unable to attend.

5. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the house, he shall rise and with due respect address himself to the president, and confine himself strictly to the point in debate.

6. When two members chance to rise at the same time, the president shall determine to whom the preference shall be given; and on all questions of order, the president shall decide—subject to an appeal to the house.

7. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave.

8. No motion shall be acted upon until seconded, and, when required, reduced to writing.

9. While the president is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse to the interruption of the house.

10. Every member who is in the house, when any question is put, shall on a division be counted, unless he be personally interested in the question, or excused by the president. No member personally interested in any question, shall, without permission, act in any capacity while it is under deliberation.

11. When a motion is under consideration, no other motion shall be made, except to postpone, to amend, to divide, or to commit.

12. A motion for amendment or postponement shall be considered as the previous question, and be decided before the original motion.

13. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order and shall be decided without debate.

14. The yeas and nays shall be called and entered on the minutes when required by one fifth of the members present.

15. At the request of the president, or on motion, the Convention may resolve itself into a committee of the whole.

16. All elections when required by two members shall be by ballot.

17. When the lay members vote by congregation it shall also be by ballot.

18. All other questions shall be decided viva voce, or by hand vote, unless a ballot be called for by two members.

19. The sittings of the Convention shall be open to all persons who choose to attend, unless otherwise ordered by the house.

20. After the first day, the minutes of the preceding day shall be read each morning at the opening of the Convention, and, if necessary, corrected; and before the rising of the Convention the whole proceedings of the session shall be read.

21. When the house is about to rise, every member shall keep his seat until the president leaves his chair.



## APPENDIX C.

THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF RHODE-ISLAND,  
IN ACCOUNT WITH GEORGE S. WARDWELL, TREAS.

| DR.  |       |   |       | CR. |
|--|-------|---|-------|-----|
| 1835.  |       | 1834,                                     |       |     |
| To cash paid Rev. Mr. Hathaway for bill postages &c. per order - - -                 | 5 00  | June, By balance of old ac't              | 42 75 |     |
| " Cash paid Marshall, Brown and Co's bill, Printing Journal of Co nvention for 1834. | 74 42 | 1835. Cash Rec'd of                       |       |     |
|  |       | St. Paul's Ch. N. Kingston                | 1 25  |     |
|  |       | St. Paul's Ch. N. Prov.                   | 8 00  |     |
|  |       | St. Mark's Ch. Warren,                    | 3 00  |     |
|  |       | Zion's Ch. Newport'                       | 5 00  |     |
|  |       | St. Paul's Ch. Portsmouth,                | 1 25  |     |
|  |       | St. John's Ch. Providence,                | 7 50  |     |
|  |       | Grace Ch. do.                             | 7 50  |     |
|  |       | St. Michael's Ch. Bristol,                | 3 75  |     |
|  |       | Christ's Ch. Lonsdale                     | 2 00  |     |
|  |       | St. Luke's Ch. E Greenwich                | 2 00  |     |
|  |       | Trinity Ch. Newport,                      | 5 00  |     |
|  |       | St. James' Ch. Woonsocket                 | 2 50  |     |
|  | 86 50 |   | 86 50 |     |
|  |       | 1835.                                     |       |     |
|  |       | June 16, By balance of old account. - - - | 7 08  |     |
|  |       | Providence, June 16, 1835.                |       |     |
|  |       | Errors excepted,                          |       |     |
|  |       | GEO. S. WARDWELL.                         |       |     |

## APPENDIX D.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EPISCOPAL SUNDAY SCHOOL  
SOCIETY OF RHODE-ISLAND.

The cause of Sunday Schools has excited more interest in the churches generally during the past year, than at any former period. The divine blessing which has been bestowed in many instances upon the instructions given, should prompt our warmest gratitude to the great head of the church, and incite to renewed diligence and greater zeal. The practice which has been occasionally adopted at the meetings of the Convocation, of assigning one service especially for the purpose of interesting the children, and of awakening an interest in behalf of Sunday Schools on the part of parents, has been attended with happy success.

With unfeigned gratitude to the giver of all spiritual blessings, we would record the interesting fact, that in *eight* parishes, 44 teachers and 41 scholars, are reported as having become pious; making in all 85 members of the Sunday Schools, that within the past year have been numbered among the children of God.

Several facts of much religious interest in connection with the Sunday School have occurred during the past year, but which cannot be noticed in this general report.

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Whole No. of Episcopal Schools in the State, | 22    |
| " " Scholars in 21 schools,                  | 2023* |
| " " Teachers " "                             | 203*  |
| " " Vols. in Libraries,                      | 2829† |

JAMES W. COOKE,  
Sec. R. I. Episcopal S. S. Union.

\* From St. Paul's Portsmouth, no returns have been received, and this school is not included in the estimate.

† Five schools have not reported the No. of vols.

## APPENDIX E.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR DEVISING MEANS FOR THE  
RELIEF OF WIDOWS, &C. OF DECEASED CLERGYMEN.*Your Committee beg leave to Report,*

That, as ministers of the gospel from the very duties to which they devote themselves, are necessarily cut off from those secular pursuits by which they might accumulate property, and make provision for the future subsistence of their families, and their salaries being scarcely adequate to meet their current expenses, they thus at the close of a long and useful life, often find themselves in destitute circumstances; and are obliged to leave their families totally unprovided for, it is deemed expedient to organize a Society, and, as soon as may be, obtain for it an act of incorporation, entitled "The Corporation for the relief of widows and children, of Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of Rhode Island."

## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. There shall be a yearly meeting of the Society, for the choice of its officers; to hear the annual report of the Board of Managers, and transact other business; to be held at the place of, and on the Wednesday next after, the annual meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Convention in this state. Special meetings *may* be called by the Board of Managers, and *shall* be called on the written request of five members, made to the Secretary, who shall give at least ten days notice of the time and place of meeting, in a public newspaper, or written personal notice to each member by mail.

ARTICLE 2. At the annual meeting, or if not then chosen, at some special meeting, there shall be chosen a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and three Directors, who shall constitute a Board of Managers, and hold their offices until others shall have been chosen in their places.

ARTICLE 3. The Board of Managers shall have power to fill all vacancies in the offices aforesaid, until the next meeting of the Society, and the custody, control, management and disposal of all the Society's property. It shall be their duty to invest the funds in loans at interest, secured by mortgage on real property of unquestionable title, the value of which shall be double the amount loaned; and from time to time to reinvest such portions of the interest as shall be added to the funds in like manner. An entire statement of the accounts, funds, securities and property shall be made in writing at every annual meeting, and also at any special meeting, when required by a majority of the members present. The Board shall require sufficient bond and surety from the Treasurer for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him; at least once in every year, and as much oftener as they may think expedient, shall audit and settle accounts and shall have the general superintendence of the Society's concerns; but shall do nothing repugnant to its votes or Bye-Laws. A majority of said Board shall be a quorum for business.

ARTICLE 4. Contributors to the funds of the Society may become members thereof, on being admitted thereto by a majority of the members present at any meeting.

ARTICLE 5. The annual contribution of a clergyman shall not be less than eight dollars, nor that of layman less than three. But any lay contributor, elected a member, shall become a life member on the payment of twenty five dollars, once for all. The yearly contributions of the Clergy shall be eight, sixteen or twenty four dollars.

ARTICLE 6. Annuities shall be paid to the widows and children of clerical contributors, only; and shall be five times the annual contributions of such contributors respectively, subject, however to the conditions and restrictions hereinafter contained.

ARTICLE 7. Each contributor shall abide by the rate or class of contribution which he shall have first chosen, unless he shall change into another class on such terms as shall be prescribed by the Board of Managers or the bye-laws of the Society; and each shall pay his annual contribution to the Treasurer on or before

the Wednesday next-following the second Tuesday in June, in each year, under the penalty of fifty *per centum* on the amount of such contribution. If any contributor shall neglect to pay his contribution for three successive years, all his previous contributions shall be forfeited to the funds of the Society.

ARTICLE 8. Every yearly contributor, being a Clergyman, who shall marry more than once, shall pay one year's contribution extraordinary on every such marriage.

ARTICLE 9. If the husband or father of any person or persons entitled to an annuity on this plan shall not have paid five annual contributions, then such person or persons shall receive only ten *per centum* per annum for thirteen years on the whole amount paid.

ARTICLE 10. If any contributor shall have paid for five years or any number of years exceeding five and less than fifteen, the annuitants shall receive only half the annuity of the rate or class subscribed to by the deceased, until such time as the yearly deduction of half the annuity, added to the payments made by the deceased, shall (exclusive of interest) make a sum in fund equal to the sum of fifteen annual payments in the class to which the deceased belonged; which partial annuities, payable agreeably to this article, shall be proportioned between the widow and the children as hereafter fixed in respect to full annuities; to wit:

ARTICLE 11. If there be no children, the widow of every contributor, if less than fifteen payments shall have been made by the deceased, shall receive the whole annual sum due by the last preceding article: and if fifteen payments shall have been made complete by the deceased, and he have continued the payment of contributions during his life, the widow shall receive the whole annuity on the husband's contributions during her widowhood, and if she marry again, she shall from the time of such marriage, receive only half such annuity during her natural life.

ARTICLE 12. If there be a child and no widow, such child shall be entitled to the whole or partial annuity for thirteen years, agreeably to the foregoing articles; but if there be more than one child and no widow, the annuity, whether whole or partial, shall be equally divided among them to be laid out, if they are minors, in their education or apprenticeship, with the advice and approbation of such executors or guardians as the father shall have nominated; but if none shall have been nominated, then in such manner, for the benefit of the child or children as the Board of Managers shall direct.

ARTICLE 13. If there be a widow and one child, the annuity, whether whole or partial, shall be equally divided between them, under the limitations aforesaid; and if there be a widow and two or more children, she shall have one third during her widowhood, or one sixth during her natural life if she should marry a second time; and the remainder for thirteen years, shall be laid out for the use of the children, as aforesaid.

ARTICLE 14. After the annuities chargeable on the funds shall have been paid, one half of the surplus product of the fund shall be divided among all the widows and children of contributors, for the term that their respective annuities, shall continue payable, in proportion to their respective annuities, according to the foregoing articles; and the remainder of such surplus shall be added to the funds and invested.

ARTICLE 15. No Clergyman, not a resident of this State, shall be admitted to the Society. If any Clergyman, a member thereof, shall remove from the State before he shall have paid five annual contributions, the sum by him already paid may be withdrawn if he desires to withdraw it. In such a case his membership shall cease, and his family shall derive no benefit from the funds. If any Clergyman, having made five or more annual contributions, shall leave the State, he may continue his connection with the Society, and entitle his family to the benefit of its funds by continuing his annual contributions.

ARTICLE 16. The Society may provide by its bye-laws for the receipt of a sum in gross, in lieu of all annual contributions by Clergymen, on such terms, conditions and restrictions as shall seem proper and reasonable. It may, also, by the votes of a majority of all its clerical members, alter any of the preceding articles of this Constitution; but no alteration so made shall diminish the right of any Clergyman, widow or child, existing at the time thereof, without his or her consent, legally given therefor.

JOHN A. CLARK,  
Chairman of the Committee.

JUNE 10TH, 1835.

At a meeting of the Society, for the relief of the Widows and Orphans of deceased Clergymen, Rev, George Taft, in the Chair, and Samuel Whitehorne Esq. Secretary pro. tem.

The following were elected officers of the Society, for the ensuing year,

REV. GEORGE TAFT, PRESIDENT,  
 WILKINS UPDIKE, Esq. V. PRESIDENT.  
 RESOLVED WATERMAN, Esq. SEC'RY.  
 SAMUEL WHITEHORNE Esq. TREASURER.  
 ALEXANDER JONES,  
 DANIEL GREEN, } DIRECTORS.  
 GEO. MUMFORD, Esq's. }

On motion, it was resolved,—That the Board of managers should take such measures as they should deem expedient, to collect funds and carry into operation, the designs of the Society. The Board were directed to procure an act of Incorporation. The Society then adjourned.



JOURNAL  
OF THE  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
FORTY-SIXTH  
ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF THE  
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
OF THE  
STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND,  
HELD IN  
ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, EAST-GREENWICH, ON TUESDAY  
JUNE 14, AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, A. D. 1836.

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PROVIDENCE:  
W. H. Brown, Printer....25 Market Square.  
1836.



## LIST OF CLERGY IN RHODE-ISLAND.

- REV. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.
- REV. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.
- REV. ERASTUS D'WOLF, Deacon, Minister of St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill.
- REV. JOHN P. FENNER, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.
- REV. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren.
- REV. EPHRAIM MONROE, Minister of Immanuel Church, Mansville.
- REV. SYLVESTER NASH, Rector of St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich.
- REV. FRANCIS PECK, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Wickford.
- REV. JAMES PRATT, Minister of Christ's Church, Westerly.
- REV. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket.
- REV. ALEXANDER H. VINTON, Deacon, Minister of Grace Church, Providence.
- REV. HENRY WATERMAN, Deacon, Minister of St. James' Church, Bernon Village.
- REV. JOHN WEST, Rector of Zion's Church, Newport.
- REV. SALMON WHEATON, D. D. Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

The following are not members of the Convention (agreeable to third article of the Constitution) not having a parochial charge.

- REV. JOSEPH M. BROWN, residing at Woonsocket.
- REV. PALMER BROWN, Deacon, do. do.
- REV. LEMUEL BURGE, residing at Wickford.

## LIST OF LAY DELEGATES,

*Certificates of whose election by their respective Churches,  
were presented and approved.*

PROVIDENCE.—*St. John's Church.* Alexander Jones, Zachariah Allen, Austin Gurney, William G. Goddard.

NEWPORT.—*Trinity Church.* Robert Johnston, Thomas Brown, Stephen H. Cahoon, William Evans.—*Zion's Church.* Washington Van Zandt, Stephen T. Northam.

BRISTOL.—*St. Michael's Church.* Benjamin Hall, George Pearce, Lemuel C. Richmond, John G. Harding.

WICKFORD.—*St. Paul's Church.* David U. Hagan, Benjamin P. Bates, Gideon Freeborn, Joshua P. Rathbun.

TOWER HILL.—*St. Luke's Church.* Job W. Watson, John Robinson, Albert Robinson, Stephen Browning, jun.

PAWTUCKET.—*St. Paul's Church.* George Mumford, Gideon L. Spencer, Hiram Cleaveland, Barney Merry.

WARREN.—*St. Mark's Church.* George Munroe, George Wheaton, John R. Wheaton, Josiah Martin.

PORTSMOUTH.—*St. Paul's Church.* John Burrington, Joseph B. Corey, Pierce A. Faulkner, Edward T. W. Cooke.

EAST-GREENWICH.—*St. Luke's Church.* Thomas P. Rodman, Daniel Greene, David Pinniger, Emery Fiske.

WESTERLY.—*Christ's Church.* Lyndon Taylor, George Brown, Stephen Smith, jun. James C. Albro.

MANSVILLE.—*Immanuel Church.* Washington Wilkinson, Arlon Man, Stephen P. Irwin.

KINGSTON.—*St. Peter's Church.* William H. Hazard, Philip Taylor, Thomas A. Hazard, Wilkins Updike.

NOTE.—No lay delegates attended the Convention from Grace Church, Providence—Christ's Church, Lonsdale and St. James's Church, Woonsocket.



# JOURNAL.

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EAST-GREENWICH, JUNE 14, 1836.

This being the day constitutionally appointed for the annual meeting of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Rhode-Island, the Clerical and Lay Delegates assembled, agreeably to the appointment of the last Convention, in St. Luke's Church, at 9 o'clock, A. M. Morning service was read by the Rev. Messrs. West and Bristed, and a sermon preached by the Rev. Dr. Crocker, and the holy communion administered by the Rev. Mr. Nash, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Crocker.

After the religious services, the Convention proceeded to organize itself. The Rev. Dr. Crocker, President of the late Convention, took the chair, and the Rev. George W. Hathaway, Secretary of the former Convention, called over the list of names of the clerical and lay members of the Convention, when the following Clergy, being all who were entitled to seats, answered to their names, viz. Rev. John Bristed, Nathan B. Crocker, Erastus D'Wolf, John P. Fenner, George W. Hathaway, Ephraim Monroe, Sylvester Nash, Francis Peck, James Pratt, George Taft, Alexander H. Vinton, Henry Waterman, John West, and Salmon Wheaton.

As also the following Lay Delegates, viz. Messrs. Alexander Jones, Austin Gurney, William G. Goddard, Robert Johnston, Stephen H. Cahoone, Benjamin Hall, John G. Harding, David U. Hagan, Gideon Freeborn, Joshua B. Rathbun, Job W. Watson, Stephen Browning, jun. George Mumford, Gideon L. Spencer, George W. Munroe, John R. Wheaton, Josiah Martin, Washington Van Zandt, John Burrington, Joseph B. Corey, Pierce A. Faulkner, Edward T. W. Cooke, Thomas P. Rodman, Daniel Greene, David Penner, Emory Fiske,

Lyndon Taylor, George Brown, James C. Albro, William H. Hazard, Philip Taylor, Thomas A. Hazard, William Updike.

The Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. was then re-elected President of the Convention, and the Rev. George W. Hathaway, Secretary.

The proceedings of the last Convention, the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church in Rhode-Island, and the rules of order of the late Convention, were then read.

It was voted, that the rules of order for the last Convention be adopted as the rules of order for this Convention.

It was voted, that any Episcopal clergyman, or candidate for holy orders, that may be present, be invited to take honorary seats in the Convention; agreeably to which invitation, the Rev. Theodore Edson, of Lowell, Mass. and Messrs. Van Zandt and Rodman, of Rhode-Island, candidates for orders, took seats.

It was resolved, that opportunity be offered this evening for the Rhode-Island Episcopal Education Society to hold their annual meeting; and that the Rev. Messrs. Hathaway and Taft be a committee to make arrangements and prepare a report for said meeting.

The Rev. Messrs. Fenner and Peck, and Mr. John Burrington, were appointed a committee on the unfinished business of the Convention.

The Rev. George W. Hathaway and Stephen T. Northam and Alexander Jones, Esqrs. were appointed a committee on the finances of the Convention.

The Treasurer presented the following as his annual report. (See Appendix A.)

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer's annual report be referred to the finance committee.

The Rev. Messrs. Crocker, Taft and Hathaway, and Messrs. William G. Goddard, John R. Wheaton and Daniel Greene, were appointed a committee on Theological Education and the establishment of an Episcopal school.

It was voted, that *twenty-five* dollars paid by certain individuals at the last Diocesan Convention, towards the expenses of said Convention, as the quota for the Episcopal Church in this State, be refunded to said individuals by the Treasurer of the Convention.

Mr. Rathbun, of Wickford, and Mr. Taylor, of Kingston, asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

Adjourned, to meet at half past 2 o'clock, P. M.

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At half past 2 o'clock, P. M. Convention re-assembled, agreeably to adjournment. Present as in the morning, except those to whom leave of absence had been granted. Convention was opened with prayer by the President.

The minutes of the preceding session were then read and approved.

The parochial reports were now received and read. (See Appendix B.)

The Rev. Messrs. Taft, Pratt and Hathaway were appointed to review and revise the parochial reports, for publication in the journal of the Convention.

The Rev. Messrs. West, Fenner and Nash were appointed a committee to prepare a general report of the state of the Episcopal church in Rhode-Island, to be published in the journal.

It was resolved, that the next annual Convention meet at St. Mark's Church, Warren, on the 2d Tuesday in June, 1837.

The Rev. Messrs. Nash, West and Vinton, and Messrs. Updike, Browning and Hall were appointed a committee to report on the expediency of so amending the Constitution, as to alter the time of the annual meeting of the Convention.

The Rev. Dr. Wheaton and Mr. Johnston, of Newport, asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

The Convention then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, the Rev. Mr. Hathaway in the chair, to consider the following resolution, offered by the Rev. Dr. Crocker:

*Resolved*, That in view of the increasing difficulty there is in procuring an adequate supply of duly qualified Ministers of the Gospel for our own State and country, together with the Macedonian cry that comes to us from the heathen world, we highly approve of the contemplated plan to establish a Divinity School in Massachusetts; for which our brethren there have obtained an act of incorporation; and, to evince our desire to aid them in placing it upon a respectable and permanent footing, we pledge our best endeavors to promote, by our influence and our contributions, the project commenced in Providence, to raise \$25,000 in ten years, for the endowment of a Professorship.

After an animated debate, without coming to a decision, the committee rose, and the Convention adjourned, to meet again after the meeting of the Education Society this evening.

HALF PAST 9 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Education Society having adjourned, the Convention met, agreeably to adjournment.

The resolution previously offered by Dr. Crocker, and discussed in committee of the whole, was passed unanimously.

Convention adjourned till to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Convention met according to adjournment. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Hathaway. The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Stephen T. Northam appeared and took his seat as a delegate from Zion's Church, Newport.

It was resolved, that this evening be appropriated to a meeting on the subject of Christian missions, and that the Rev. Dr. Crocker be a committee to make arrangements and prepare a report for said meeting.

The committee on the finances of the Convention, made a report, which was accepted, and the proposed resolutions severally adopted. (See Appendix C.)



It was resolved, that the *first* canon be so amended that the standing committee consist of *four* of each order, instead of *three*.

The following were elected members of the standing committee for the year ensuing: Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. George Taft, George W. Hathaway and Alexander H. Vinton, of the Clergy. George Mumford, Benjamin Cowell, Resolved Waterman and Daniel Greene, Esqrs. of the Laity.

The following were elected Delegates to the General Convention: Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. George Taft, John West and Sylvester Nash, of the Clergy. Alexander Jones, Edward S. Wilkinson, Rowse Babcock, jun. and Wilkins Up-like, Esqrs. of the Laity.

Alexander Jones, Esq. was elected Treasurer.

The committee on amending the Constitution, so as to alter the time of the annual meeting of the Convention, made the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the subject of a change in the time of holding the annual Convention of this Diocese, beg leave respectfully to report, that they have had the same under consideration, and as the result of their deliberation propose that measures be taken to alter the Constitution, so far as that the annual Convention shall be held on the Thursday after the first Wednesday in September, of each year, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

*On behalf of the Committee,*

S. NASH.

The report was read, and the recommendation therein proposed adopted, with the following amendment; that *the last Tuesday in August, or such other time as the next Convention shall approve*, be substituted instead of "Thursday after the first Wednesday in September," as proposed in said report.

This amendment, approved by this Convention, lays over to be acted upon by the next annual Convention, and, if approved of by them, becomes then a part of the Constitution.

It was resolved, that it be a standing rule, that the delegation to the General Convention have power to fill any vacancies that may occur in their number.

The Rev. Mr. Pratt was appointed a committee to prepare a report of the state of the Church in this State, for the use of the General Convention.

The committee to examine and revise the parochial reports made report that they had attended to the duty assigned them and had made such revision as they thought necessary, but had altered no report, except with the consent and approval of the authors ; which report was accepted, and the parochial reports ordered to be published with the journals.

It was resolved, that 1000 copies of the journal of the Convention be published.

William G. Goddard, Esq. was appointed the publishing committee.

It was resolved, that Mr. Goddard be authorized to employ some one, at the expense of the Convention, to prepare the manuscript journal for the press.

William G. Goddard, Esq. asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

A communication was made by the President from the Secretary of the General Convention, communicating certain resolutions of the General Convention, proposing alterations in the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. Also to add a certain amendment to the note on the Table of Movable Feasts ; the consideration of which was deferred to the next annual Convention.

The Rev. James Pratt, and the Rev. Ephraim Munroe, his substitute, were appointed to preach the next Convention sermon.

Adjourned to meet at the hour of the missionary meeting half past 2 o'clock this afternoon.

HALF PAST 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Convention met according to adjournment. The meeting was opened with singing the 102d Hymn, and prayer by the Rev. Mr. Hathaway.

The Rev. Dr. Crocker, the committee previously appointed, read a report on the subject of Christian Missions; which was followed by addresses from the Rev. Messrs. Taft, Pratt and Fenner.

After singing the 133d Psalm, and prayer and the benediction by the President, the Convention adjourned, sine die.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, *Sec'ry.*

## APPENDIX A.

*DR. Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode-  
Island in account with* **GEORGE S. WARDWELL.** **CR.**

| 1835.                            | \$ C.          | 1836.                       | \$ C.          |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| June 11. To balance of old acct. | 7 08           | Feb. 25. By cash paid E. A. |                |
| Sept. Rec'd of St. Paul's chur.  |                | Marshall, on acct. of       |                |
| N. Providence,                   | 6 00           | printing,                   | 20 00          |
| Nov. " Of St. Luke's church,     |                | May 17, Paid do. do.        | 20 00          |
| 1836. -E. Greenwich,             | 5 00           | June 10, Paid do. do.       | 15 00          |
| May, " Of Grace church, Prov.    | 15 00          | " " Paid Rev. Nathan B.     |                |
| June, Of St. John's chur. Prov.  | 15 00          | Crocker on acct. of         |                |
| " " Of St. John's church,        |                | money advanced in           |                |
| on account of assess-            |                | 1832,                       | 21 00          |
| ment for 1832,                   | 21             | Balance,                    | 17 83          |
| " Of Grace church for do.        | 21             |                             |                |
| " Of Christ's church,            |                |                             |                |
| Westerly,                        | 3 75           |                             |                |
|                                  | <u>\$93 83</u> |                             | <u>\$93 83</u> |

## APPENDIX B.

**ST. JAMES' CHURCH, BERNON VILLAGE, SMITHFIELD.**

The undersigned commenced officiating in St. James's on the first Sunday in Advent, 29th of November last ; although, from circumstances which it is unnecessary to specify, he has *resided* in the place only since the middle of January. He takes pleasure in reporting that there has been a considerable increase in the size of the congregation, and that the members of it have given a gratifying attention to the instructions of the pulpit. Nor have there been wanting indications of the presence and unction of the Holy Spirit among us. There has been and is now a degree of seriousness prevailing, which we hope may be



regarded as the omen of better days for the spiritual interests of this flock. Two services on the Sabbath and a lecture during the week, are held regularly.

The Sunday school consists of about 80 scholars, of whom 50 are in actual attendance. It is under the charge of a Superintendent and thirteen teachers, and is furnished with a small library.

A sewing circle has also been recently organized among the ladies of St. James's, under auspices unusually flattering. It convenes once in two weeks, and on those occasions the Minister of the parish usually meets with them, and spends an hour in the reading of some appropriate book. From this association we anticipate much good, in a variety of ways. We think the parish may safely be pronounced to be in a flourishing condition.

There have been 1 baptism (adult;) 1 marriage, 2 funerals. Of the communicants 9 have been added, 3 have removed; present number, as nearly as can be ascertained, 30.

H. WATERMAN, MINISTER.

*June 13, 1836.*

### EMMANUEL CHURCH, MANSVILLE.

The peculiar circumstances under which this parish was organized, a little previous to the last annual Convention, and its then infant and imperfect state, were not such, perhaps, as would reasonably afford the expectation of any very immediate and decided results. In his\* last report, however, the undersigned expressed the conviction that, in this place, a door of usefulness was open to him. From a review of the past Conventional year, this conviction has not been lessened. And though there have not yet been witnessed that extensive improvement which is desirable where the Gospel is preached, and those special fruits for which the Minister of God is accustomed anxiously to look; still, however, there is just cause for gratitude, in view of the measure of success that has resulted, and

from a present survey of our field of labor, we are disposed to thank God and take courage.

Temporally, our parish may be considered prosperous. During the past year, an act of incorporation has been obtained agreeably to a form previously approved by our people.

Our services, though yet new to many who attend them, are performed with some degree of propriety. The chants have been introduced by our choir—they are regularly and properly conducted, and we trust they add to the interest of our worship. The congregation are respectful, and manifest a good degree of sobriety in their attendance on the means of grace. The improved interest, or more single attention manifest under the preaching of the Gospel, and sometimes evinced by the tearful eye, seems to indicate that the truth is silently finding its way to the heart, and to afford encouragement that, ere long, the word will prove itself not to have been spoken altogether in vain.

Individuals have liberally, and to the extent of the demand made upon them, contributed to the support of the gospel in the parish. The kind and friendly disposition manifested towards us, by this people, in temporal matters, has been such as to humble us; and while we trust it has been for our furtherance in the Gospel, it has not rendered us less anxiously desirous for their salvation.

There have been, since our last report, three infants baptized, marriages 10, burials 4. Our Sunday school numbers 80 scholars and 10 teachers. The most favorable indication that can be remarked in our prospects at present, is, that of sober attention to the preaching of the word, and a disposition, in some cases at least, to lay aside prejudice against the Gospel of the Redeemer. Two or three have been led, we trust, with sincerity and in earnest, to make the inquiry for themselves, "What shall I do to be saved?" May these be the first fruits of many who shall make the like inquiry, and to whom there shall hereafter be given a crown of glory.

E. MUNROE, MINISTER.

June 13, 1836.

## CHRIST'S CHURCH, LONSDALE.

*To the Secretary of the Convention,*

REV. AND DEAR SIR—As I have closed my pastoral connexion with the parish at Lonsdale, and have accepted an invitation to another field of labor, I send you the following brief account of the parish during the few months that have intervened since the last Convention in June.

Within this period the church has been completed, and in September last was consecrated to God according to the rites and usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. The church is a beautiful specimen of Grecian architecture, and is furnished with every convenience for the appropriate celebration of divine worship.

The parish is now able to support itself, and has already paid back into the Treasury of the Convocation about three hundred dollars. This sum has been raised by the ladies of the sewing circle, two hundred of which have been contributed the present year. The industry and perseverance of this association have ever been a source of encouragement to their former Pastor, and he leaves them in the firm belief they will not cease their work and labor of love; for already do they feel that, in striving to do good to others, they are blessed themselves. All the monies raised by them, have been cheerfully paid into the Treasury of the Convocation. I should also mention that the sum of fifty-four dollars, collected at the monthly missionary meeting, have been paid to the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, to be appropriated to the China mission. Since the last Convention, the subject of infant baptism has been brought before the congregation. This delightful and scriptural privilege and duty of dedicating little children to the Lord, though opposed to the former views and feelings of the people, has been most favorably received. Many are surprised that they have been so long unacquainted with the mass of evidence by which this duty is so plainly established. On the last Sab-

bath 1 baptized nine children, and it is expected that several others will soon be brought forward. Several additions to the communion and adult baptism, have taken place, since the report in June. The whole number of communicants is fifty. On the day of the Consecration, Bishop Griswold administered Confirmation to twelve persons, being the third time the rite has been administered within the last fifteen months.

One of the happiest circumstances connected with the parish is the perfect union and harmony which have ever prevailed among the members of the church. The enlightened attachment now felt by them to the services of the church, and which has taken the place of former prejudices, may be hailed as an earnest of their future prosperity as a church and people.

It is not without the deepest feeling of an imperative sense of duty, that their former Pastor separates himself from a people so dear to the affections of his heart—among whom he has passed the happiest hours of his existence, and with whom he has so often taken sweet counsel and gone to the house of God in company. Daily shall they be remembered in his unworthy petitions, and great is the consolation that he feels in the sure belief that, as in times past, so now also, they will continue to offer up unceasing prayer in his behalf.

JAMES W. COOKE, LATE RECTOR.

*November 25, 1835.*

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## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-PROVIDENCE.

The Rector of this church reports to the Convention, 159 communicants, 29 baptisms, 16 marriages, 160 Sunday school scholars, and 54 funerals. Of the latter, six only were in his congregation.

During the last Conventional year, the congregation of St. Paul's church has steadily increased. Since Passion Week, I have added to the communion, 24. There are now a number of candidates for baptism, and a very general seriousness per-

vades the congregation. The Lord hath done, and is doing, great things for us. To his name be the praise.

In addition to the regular services of the church on the Sabbath, I lecture on Sunday and Wednesday evenings, and catechise the children, once a month. On Sunday mornings, I instruct a Bible class, a number of which have become hopefully pious, and have joined the church. I have preached several times at the neighboring village of Central Falls.

I have observed the seasons of Passion Week, Monday and Tuesday in Easter Week, Monday and Tuesday in Whitsun Week, besides other fast and festival days. These seasons have been greatly blessed. Some have been brought into the fold of Christ, and those already within the pale of the church have been edified, by the observance of these seasons.

There are times, it is believed, when extraordinary religious services are required. These services are provided in our Liturgy. The framers of our book of Common Prayer seem to have been prophetic; they appear to have anticipated the demand for religious services in this age of excitement, and to have provided for it; my experience is, that their provision is amply sufficient. I have also learned by experience, that in times of revival, or high religious excitement, the Prayer Book is most highly valued; and I have been called upon, at such times, to use the discretionary part of the Litany.

Since the performance of the extraordinary religious services of our church, my people have repeatedly said to me, that they never before saw the church completely clad in her beautiful garments. They would be very unwilling to have them discontinued.

The Sunday school is more numerously attended than it has been for several years past, and is in a prosperous state. Connected with it is a well-furnished library.

The monthly concert for prayer is held the first Monday evening in each month. The male members of the church hold a prayer meeting on Thursday evening, and the female



members on Saturday evening, of each week. The female Missionary Society are steadily engaged in their pious work. Parochial visitation is attended to, as far as any other avocations will permit.

Upon the whole, the parish of St. Paul's church was never more flourishing than at the present time. There is great reason for encouragement, and for gratitude to God.

GEORGE TAFT, Rector.

*North-Providence, June 13, 1836.*

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### ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

The record of St. John's church shews of baptisms, 8; 4 infants and 4 adults; accessions to the communion, 18; marriages, 3; burials, 15; confirmed, 15; Sunday school teachers, 26; scholars, 128; infant school teachers, 2; scholars, 65; colored school teachers, 11; scholars, 48. The church contributes for missionary, education and diocesan purposes, \$1000 per annum, on an average. Whole number of communicants, 180.

N. B. CROCKER, Rector.

*Providence, June 13, 1836.*

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### ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN.

The Rector of this church respectfully reports for the past year, baptisms, 4 adults, 9 infants; total, 13; marriages, 8; burials, 6; communicants removed, 8; died, 1; added, 9; present number, 112; confirmed, 16; Sunday school, 17 teachers, 100 scholars; library, 236 vols.

We have, during the past year, in the providence of God, suffered the loss of some valuable members by death and removal; but, through the divine goodness, the general state of the congregation is prosperous; its numbers, and we hope its piety, gradually increasing.

Our religious services, besides the morning and afternoon services of Sunday, are a familiar lecture on Sunday and Thursday evenings, and a prayer meeting on Tuesday evening; also the monthly concerts of prayer for missions, Sunday schools and seamen, on the first, second and third Monday evenings of every month.

The ladies' society continue, with unabated zeal, their unostentatious but highly useful labors; contributing from the proceeds of their industry and contributions, valuable aid to the missionary cause and other benevolent objects.

Our missionary collections are made on the principle of systematic charity recommended by the Apostle: "Upon the first day of the week, let each one lay by him in store, according as God hath prospered him;" which weekly offerings are deposited at the monthly missionary meeting, in a box at the door. We have in this way succeeded, during the past year, in collecting a greater amount than by the former method of soliciting contributions; and, we trust, with far greater convenience, and pleasure and profit to the contributors.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, RECTOR.

*Warren, June 13, 1836.*

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## ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BRISTOL.

During the past year, 12 infants have been baptized; the burials, 6; marriages, 5; confirmed, 1; communicants added, 6; died, 5; number left, 229. The religious services are, on the Lord's day, prayers and preaching twice, with prayers and a lecture in the evening; a lecture on Tuesday evening; a conference meeting Saturday evening; a missionary concert meeting on the first Monday of each month; a prayer meeting by the female communicants, on the Monday evening of each week, except the first; occasional prayer meetings at each other's houses, by the male communicants; together with as much pastoral visiting, as the Rector's broken health and in-

cessant occupation will allow. On the Wednesday of each week, the Female Missionary Society meets to work for the Rhode-Island Clerical Convocation; into whose Treasury they have paid two hundred and fifty dollars during the last year. Our Education Society sustains at Bristol College, in Pennsylvania, a beneficiary, with a view to his taking orders in our church. For an account of the Sunday school, reference is made to the subjoined report of the Superintendent, who meets the teachers for mutual scripture study and improvement, on Friday evening of each week. A Maternal Association has been recently organized, in St. Michael's church, for the purpose of better enabling *mothers* to train up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. May Jehovah, in much mercy, vouchsafe to make this important association an instrument in His holy hand, of awakening, quickening, reviving our *slumbering* church! It is one of the *saddest* signs of the times, that so many of our *older* churches, throughout the Union, have become cold, indifferent, careless, lukewarm, dead. If God does not in mercy vouchsafe to *revive* His work in the midst of the years, we may soon expect to see, and feel, that *judgment* is, in very deed, begun at the house of God.

JOHN BRISTED, RECTOR.

*Bristol, June 14, 1836.*

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#### A REPORT OF ST. MICHAEL'S SUNDAY SCHOOL, BRISTOL.

Our school, at present, comprises 1 superintendent, 2 assistants, 2 librarians, and 5 male and 20 female teachers. Upon an average, 125 scholars have attended. Two scholars, of the age of 12 and 13 years, have been taken from us, the past year, by death. Their sickness, which was long and distressing, they bore with patience, giving evidence of a holy resignation to the will of Heaven. About three months since, they were brought, (as we have reason to believe) to a peaceful death, with an unusually strong faith in a once crucified but now risen Saviour. This gives us reason to be thankful, and to hope

that the Lord will bless our humble endeavors so to instruct the Sunday school children, that they may be prepared to leave this world for the next, and to join those who have gone before, through the mediation and merits of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

G. B. MONRO, *Assistant Superintendent.*

Our studies are, the A. S. S. Union Questions, hymns and portions of scripture committed to memory. We have 375 volumes in our library.

*Bristol, June 13, 1836.*

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### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH.

The Rector of this church respectfully reports to the Convention, (towards the close of the third year of the existence of St. Paul's, Portsmouth) that, during the last Conventional year, there have been the usual religious services, in the church, on the Lord's day; and a third service, either in the church or in a private house. The principal festivals and fasts have been observed, so far as circumstances have admitted. One or two meetings for social worship have been held, during the week, in different parts of the parish. Three female circles now meet therein weekly, for prayer for the divine blessing.

The Sunday school has regularly had the superintendence of the Rector. The Sunday school library has received an acceptable donation from a Christian not of our communion.

The two female Convocation Societies of the parish have contributed to the general fund, according to their ability.

Ten copies of the "Christian Witness" have been circulated, during one year, through the liberality of a clerical brother. This gift is continued from a different source. The "Christian Witness" is deemed a valuable auxiliary for the diffusion of experimental and practical religion: its catholic temper is also well adapted to present the church in her genuine character, and to conciliate attention and regard. On these ac-

counts, it is be believed to be appropriate to the condition of a new parish.

Through the favor of another clerical brother, the use of an organ has been granted us, which is a valuable assistance towards the due performance of the services of the sanctuary, and the promotion of attendance thereon.

The congregation of St. Paul's continues to increase; and, it is hoped, that there is arising a more just and more general appreciation of religious privileges. The ordinances of baptism and the Lord's supper, and the rite of confirmation, have, it is believed, been signally owned and blessed of God to the establishment and comfort of believers. Social meetings for religious worship, pastoral visitation, (to which a large proportion of time has been devoted) and the distribution of religious books and tracts, have, it is thought, been, under God, the more immediate means of adding to the communion of the church; the scattered situation of the congregation and other circumstances being such as to prevent the regular attendance at the sanctuary which is usual where the members of a congregation dwell contiguously. The number of communicants added is not large; but they all give scriptural evidence of sound conversion, and afford promise that they will "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, and live godly, righteously and soberly in this present evil world."

For what has been wrought in us and by us,\* we would give all the glory and praise "to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost." Baptized adults, 6; confirmed, 6; communicants added, 8; removed, 1; deceased, 2; present number, 20; Sunday school teachers, 7; scholars, 20 to 35; marriages, 3; burials, 6.

J. P. FENNER, RECTOR.

*Portsmouth, June 14, 1836.*

\* Since the commencement of Episcopal services, in July, 1833, there have been gathered 27 communicants.



## TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT.

Baptisms, children, 16 ; adults, 6 ; total, 22 ; confirmed, 9 ; marriages, 2 ; funerals, 24 ; communicants added, 20 ; died, 8 ; removed, 5 ; present number, 125 ; Sunday school teachers, 24 ; scholars, 230 ; volumes in the library, 511 ; contributions for benevolent purposes, \$240.

S. WHEATON, RECTOR.

*Newport, June 13, 1836.*

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## ZION CHURCH, NEWPORT.

The Rector of this parish respectfully reports, that the divine blessing has been experienced in the continual prosperity of its condition, during the past conventional year. The year before the last was a period of unusual spiritual prosperity, and will long be remembered as an *era* in the history of this church. The year which has just terminated has not been marked with such special manifestations of God's presence in the conversion of numbers from sin to holiness, as occur in what is popularly termed "a revival of religion." The influence of religion has, consequently, been less visibly and strongly exhibited in every good word and work. Yet we have no small occasion for thankfulness in the fact, that the prosperity which has heretofore been experienced, and which is still in a good degree enjoyed, has *not* been followed by any relapse ; but that, on the contrary, all the institutions of the church, and the benevolent associations of the age continue to receive their usual attention ; and that, amid so much lamented division in the Christian world, we are able to say of the church that, "peace is within her walls."

The subjoined table will shew the state and progress of the church, and no further detail might be deemed necessary ; but there are a few particulars on which it may be useful to enlarge.

The Sunday school still continues prosperous, and among

the means of keeping alive a constant interest in the cause, one deserves particular notice. The school is divided into different departments; and the Superintendent and teachers of each hold a weekly meeting among themselves; and on these occasions, besides their devotional exercises, and attending to the lesson for the next Sunday, consult on whatever may be necessary to the improvement of each department. A deeper interest has been evidently awakened by this division of supervision: as one evidence of it, a recent examination of the parish has shewn that not a single child remained unconnected with one or other of the schools, except for a satisfactory reason.

The cause of the Sunday school and of intelligent piety has been advanced by another object, which deserves notice. This is the establishment of a "religious circulating library," designed for the use of the teachers, and the members of the Bible classes. By this plan, books have been obtained, both by donation and purchase, which could not have been procured otherwise; especially the publications of the day, which are of an interesting character, but not of a sufficiently standard one to be generally purchased. Besides this, the more general *reading* of them and of all the other books is secured.

One fact deserves mention in relation to the missionary cause. Our meetings and our contributions, in connexion with this object, have been very much increased by holding the monthly missionary meeting in the church, and accompanying it with a stated lecture, in which the various topics connected with this large subject may be treated separately.

It may not be improper to mention, among the accessions to the church during this year, the baptism of a very interesting lady, who has been well known to the Episcopal public by her sufferings. I refer to the subject of the Rhode-Island Cottage.

It is due also to the members of the Ladies' Convocation Society of this parish to correct a mistake made in the Journal of last year. They were then represented as having by great industry, contributed nearly \$100, within two years, to the missionary cause. It should have been \$600.

Marriages, 6 ; burials, 8 ; baptisms, adults, 4 ; infants, 9 ; confirmed, 7 ; communicants, added, 23 ; removed, 2 ; present number, 116 ; Sunday scholars, 224 ; teachers, 35 ; volumes in library, 435.

JOHN WEST, Rector.

*Newport, June 13, 1836.*

## CHRIST'S CHURCH, WESTERLY.

With the deepest gratitude to the Giver of all Good, does the Minister of this church record the blessings which have been conferred upon the people of his charge, during the past conventional year. "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name be all the glory."

We have had to contend with the difficulties incident to new parishes. We have had the trials which always attend a church blessed of God. Still we can say, with emphasis, all these things have worked together for our good. They have kept us from wandering in idleness upon the banks of the stream, forgetful of the fountain. They have kept us, as we trust, at the feet of "the great Shepherd and Bishop of our souls." We would, by no means, have it understood, that our trials have been greater than those usually attendant upon new stations. So far from it, we have been received by the great mass of the community with such kindness and cordiality as can never be forgotten while we live, but must continue a source of gratitude and thanksgiving to Him "who turneth the hearts of men as the rivers of water are turned."

We reported, last year, that we were making efforts to build a house, which would be consecrated to the worship of God, according to the forms and usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Through the divine blessing, we have been able to accomplish our object. A neat and beautiful church has been erected, at an expense of about \$6000. Of this sum, nearly \$2000 were originally subscribed by

individuals of our own congregation. This sum was increased to upwards of \$3000, by the donations of friends in New-York, Providence, Newport, Bristol and Warren. The remainder of the expense has been, contrary to our expectations, met by the recent sale of pews. The debt still remaining is comparatively small. Our house is 57 by 38 feet, of perfect Grecian order, with a projection of seven feet, supported by four columns. We have a well-finished, commodious lecture room, in the basement of the church. A bell has been purchased, and we hope, ere long, to be able to offer unto God the notes of praise from the well-tuned organ.

We have, in a state of progress, to be finished in a few months, a parsonage house, to be located on a lot adjoining the church. Most truly may it be said of this dear people, "they have done what they could." Never have they shrunk from the work to which they put their hands. No expense or labor has been spared to place the church of their love upon an immovable basis. God reward them. Nay, he has rewarded them: his spiritual blessings have more than kept pace with their efforts to advance his cause.

During the year, there have been many accessions to the communion, of such as, we trust, will finally be saved. The table attached to this report will show the number added. Our increase has been very gradual, scarcely a communion season passing, without some one or more being joined to "the sacramental host."

Our "ladies' sewing circle" has done, as we said last year they would do, well in every sense of the word. Since their organization, eighteen months since, they have raised \$235. From this sum they have paid, upon a pledge of their Pastor, \$100 into the funds of the Rhode-Island Convocation. With the remaining \$135, they have purchased and presented to the church a beautiful silver communion service.

Our Tract Society still continues its useful operations; and although we are not able to point directly to cases of conversion through its instrumentality, yet are we satisfied that good has

been done, for God has promised that his "word shall not return unto him void."

Since our last report, a Baptist society has been organized in the village, and the Sabbath school has been divided. This has, of course, diminished our number of scholars somewhat. Still, we are able to report our school as being in a prosperous condition. We have recently purchased a library, consisting of nearly 260 volumes, which number being added to those before possessed, make in all about 400 volumes. There have been six hopeful conversions among the scholars, five of whom are in communion with our church, and are, as we believe, adorning their profession by a holy walk and conversation.

Our services for the week, are, preaching twice on the Sabbath, and a lecture or prayer meeting in the evening; ladies' sewing circle meet on Tuesday afternoon; a prayer meeting, which is of a deeply interesting character, on Wednesday evening; the Pastor's life, or, in other words, the female praying circle, on Friday evening; and a teachers' meeting and Bible class on Saturday evening. In addition to these, the monthly missionary concert is observed on the first Monday evening in each month.

The Pastor of this church has preached a number of times about two miles from the village, where good attendance and attention have been given. Should strength be granted, the request of the people will be complied with, and the meetings be continued.

Adult baptisms, 21; communicants before reported, 38; do. added, 27; do. deceased, 2; present number, 63; confirmations, 21; Sunday scholars, 94; teachers, males, 6; do. females, 8; marriages, 6; burials, 7.

JAMES PRATT, RECTOR.

*Westerly, June 13, 1836.*

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### ST. PETER'S CHURCH, KINGSTON.

By request of the Wardens and Vestrymen of St. Peter's Church, the undersigned reports that no material change has



taken place in its condition and prospects, since the Convention of 1835. Our efforts to obtain a Clergyman for that station, have been, hitherto, unavailing. The members attached to the church have, as we believe, continued steadfast in the truth, and have gone on in the narrow path, patiently waiting for the time when God should send them a servant to break to them the bread of eternal life. The ladies of the church having formed themselves into a Convocation Society, have paid into the treasury of the Rhode-Island Convocation, 30 dollars; and, considering the discouragements with which they have had to contend, this is indeed *noble*. There have been, as I believe, some accessions to the communion, since the last report; but not having the records at hand, I am unable to say how many. We pray that they may, and trust they will, ere long, have a "man after God's own heart."

JAMES PRATT.

*June 13, 1836.*

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### ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, TOWER HILL.

We rejoice that, through the merciful goodness of the Lord, we are again permitted to report to this Convention. We regret, most of all, not being able to record more to the glory of God's grace. But we can most truly say, that whatever has been done was the fruit of his goodness, and to his name be all the praise. As explanatory of the little success that has attended our services, we would state that, in addition to our own unworthiness, the difficulties to be encountered in raising a prostrate church, are undoubtedly much greater than those which are experienced in building up new churches. We have to bless God for his long-suffering with this people, and their unworthy servant in Christ. Some souls during the past year, we trust, have entered the bands of the redeemed, by newness of life. The time, we believe, has never been, when there were none seeking the salvation of their souls. Last October,

a series of meetings were holden at our church, by the devotedness, zeal and self-denial, chiefly, of one of our brethren, which were greatly blessed. We are pained to say that but very few of those who attended those meetings, have yet come out from the world by a public profession of their faith. It is too often the case, in all our country congregations, that persons are a year or two professedly pious, before they can be induced to unite with the people of God. Many thus lose in a measure their first love, become lukewarm, and in many instances live for years in such a manner that it would be difficult to decide which has the best claim to them, Christ or the world. This is one of the great trials through which most of our Missionaries are called to pass, and one over which they must weep and pray. Our parish has accomplished, the past year, a noble object in the thorough repair of one of the old glebe houses. It is now a neat and commodious dwelling. They intend to repair the church, the present summer. The ladies' missionary society for our own State is doing very well, considering how few there are who feel any proper interest in it. We have two Sabbath schools, both of which, we trust, average from 60 to 70 scholars. We have received, during the past year, to the holy communion, by baptism and confirmation, 7; present number of communicants, 22; died, 1; burials, 4; baptized, 1 infant; marriages, 2.

ERASTUS D'WOLF, MINISTER.

*Tower Hill, June 14, 1836.*

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### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WICKFORD.

Those who have been acquainted with the former history of this parish, or have seen the report presented at the last Convention, will not anticipate, at the present time, an account so encouraging as from some of our sister churches of more recent organization.

In reviewing the period since we last met, my mind can

fix upon no changes which appear as *striking* evidences of progress; yet, in the general aspect of things, there is a very visible improvement. If asked in what I might deem this improvement to consist, the reply would be, in a more intimate and endearing communion among the members of our church, and in a realizing sense that, as individuals, they have solemn and important duties to perform.

So far as *pecuniary* effort is an evidence of spiritual interest, we are not entirely destitute of tokens for good. The circumstances of our people are quite limited, yet by their own exertions, combined with the truly Christian liberality of our friends in the neighboring parishes, a beautiful organ has been purchased, to impart additional interest to our services. We are in some degree, it is true, still indebted for this instrument, but we hope that soon this debt will be entirely liquidated.

So far as has been in the power of the friends and members of the church, they have reciprocated the pecuniary kindness extended to them.

The ladies' sewing circle, though small in numbers, has raised \$62; fifty of which has been placed at the disposal of the Convocation, in its character as the missionary association of the church in this State. During the present year, it is confidently hoped that a much larger amount will be collected for the same purpose.

Our number of services is, from the somewhat peculiar circumstances of the people, rather limited. An evening lecture in addition to the regular services of the sanctuary, closes the duties of the Sabbath. An additional lecture, and a ladies' association for prayer, the conducting of which devolves, in a great measure, upon the female members of the church, compose the intervening services. Our sewing circle meets in the afternoon of each Saturday, when it is my practice to be present.

We have a Sabbath school under very happy auspices, over which I extend my personal superintendence. The number of

teachers is 11, and that of the scholars from 40 to 50; nearly all the former are hopefully pious.

In exhibiting the statistics of the church, that portion which refers to the number of communicants added, though arithmetically correct, will not furnish an entirely accurate view of the *real* increase. Several individuals will probably join our next communion who, from the impression of a longer probation being the course of prudence, were not encouraged to advance at the former administration.

We have for the past year, of adult baptisms, 4; admitted to communion, 5; confirmed, 4; funerals, 4; marriages, 1; Sunday school teachers, male, 4; female, 7; who have the charge of from 40 to 50 scholars.

FRANCIS PECK, RECTOR.

*Wickford, June 13, 1836.*

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#### ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, EAST-GREENWICH.

Baptisms, 1; confirmations, 3; funerals, 3; communicants, 42.

In this parish, no essential change has taken place, since the last Convention.

The services have been generally well attended; but there has not been and is not as much attention to the great concern of the soul, as in former years.

The Sunday school is flourishing, having 120 scholars, a fair proportion of whom are regular in their attendance. Besides the school attached to the church, the teachers have exerted themselves, it is believed, to some good effect, in other places. A colored Sunday school is taught in the village, and four Sunday schools in the neighboring region, which are represented as doing well.

The weekly Bible class is still continued, besides which, there is a separate adult Sunday school class, conducted by a lay gentleman during the intermission.

The ladies, with commendable perseverance and industry, and usual success, continue their efforts in behalf of the Convocation.

S. NASH, RECTOR.

*East-Greenwich, June 14, 1836.*

## APPENDIX C.

The committee on the finances of the Convention, report, that it appears from the Treasurer's report referred to them, that he has received from the churches the past year only *eighty-six dollars and seventy-five cents* from the *two hundred and nine dollars* voted and assessed on the churches by the last Convention; and that *one hundred and thirteen dollars and seventy-five cents* are still due from the following churches:—Trinity church, Newport, \$30; Zion church, Newport, \$12 50; St. Michael's church, Bristol, \$8 75; St. Mark's church, Warren, \$18; St. Paul's, North Providence, \$12; St. James's, Woonsocket, \$3 75; St. Paul's, Wickford, \$9; Christ's church, Lonsdale, \$3 75; St. Paul's church, Portsmouth, \$3 75; St. Luke's, Tower Hill, \$6; St. Peter's church, Kingston, \$2 50. Total \$113 75, now due to the Convention from the aforesaid churches. The debts of the Convention amount to \$123 75, which ought to be immediately paid; and which, the amount now due with the small balance in the treasury, will enable the Convention to pay.

To pay the expenses of the Convention for the present year, as also the *twenty-five dollars* assumed by the Convention yesterday, the Committee have made the following apportionment, being at the rate of 1 1-4 per cent. on the salaries paid to the Rectors of the several churches, respectively :



|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| St. James's church, Woonsocket,    | \$6 25   |
| Immanuel church, Mansville,        | 3 75     |
| Christ's church, Lonsdale,         | 7 50     |
| St. Paul's church, N. Providence,  | 7 50     |
| St. John's church, Providence,     | 15 00    |
| Grace church, do.                  | 15 00    |
| St. Luke's church, East-Greenwich, | 6 25     |
| St. Paul's church, Wickford,       | 3 75     |
| St. Luke's church, Tower Hill,     | 3 75     |
| Christ's church, Westerly,         | 6 25     |
| St. Mark's church, Warren,         | 7 50     |
| St. Michael's church, Bristol,     | 7 50     |
| St. Paul's church, Portsmouth,     | 3 75     |
| Trinity church, Newport,           | 12 50    |
| Zion's church, do.                 | 12 50    |
| <hr/>                              |          |
|                                    | \$118 75 |

The committee recommend that the Treasurer's report referred to them be received; and as promptness in the payment of the several accounts apportioned, is of the greatest importance, they propose the adoption of the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it be requested of the Delegates of the several churches, that they now pay into the hands of the Treasurer the amount of their past and present apportionment.

GEO. W. HATHAWAY,  
ALEXANDER JONES,  
S. T. NORTHAM.

*East-Greenwich, June 15, 1836.*



JOURNAL  
OF THE  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
FORTY-SEVENTH  
ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE  
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OF THE  
STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND,

HELD IN

ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN, ON TUESDAY, JUNE 13,  
AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, A. D. 1837.

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PROVIDENCE:  
H. H. Brown---25 Market Square.  
1837.



## LIST OF CLERGY IN RHODE-ISLAND.

- Rev. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.
- Rev. LEMUEL BURGE, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Kingstown.
- Rev. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.
- Rev. ERASTUS D'WOLF, Deacon, Minister of St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill.
- Rev. JOHN P. FENNER, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.
- Rev. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren.
- Rev. LOUIS JANSEN, Minister of the Church of the Nativity, Chepachet.
- Rev. EPHRAIM MONROE, Minister of Emmanuel's Church, Manville.
- Rev. SYLVESTER NASH, Rector of St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich.
- Rev. FRANCIS PECK, Assistant Minister of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.
- Rev. JAMES PRATT, Rector of Christ Church, Westerly.
- Rev. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Providence.
- Rev. ALEXANDER H. VINTON, Minister of Grace Church, Providence.
- Rev. WASHINGTON VAN ZANDT, Deacon, officiating at Lonsdale.
- Rev. HENRY WATERMAN, Deacon, Minister of St. James's Church, Woonsocket.
- Rev. EDWARD WAYLEN, Deacon, Minister of St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.
- Rev. JOHN WEST, Rector of Zion Church, Newport.
- Rev. SALMON WHEATON, D. D. Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.
- Rev. JOSEPH M. BROWN, residing at Woonsocket.



## LIST OF LAY DELEGATES,

*Certificates of whose election by their respective Churches,  
were presented and approved.*

PROVIDENCE.—*St. John's Church.* Alexander Jones, William G. Goddard, Austin Gurney, John B. Chace.

*Grace Church.* George S. Wardwell, Resolved Waterman, Amasa Manton, George Andrews.

NEWPORT.—*Zion Church.* Stephen T. Northam, John H. Gilliat, Samuel Whitehorne, Henry Potter.

PORTSMOUTH.—*St. Paul's Church.* John Burrington, Henry Lawton, Bateman Monroe.

BRISTOL.—*St. Michael's Church.* George Pearse, John G. Harding, Benjamin Hall, Lemuel C. Richmond.

WARREN.—*St. Mark's Church.* Nathan M. Wheaton, Paschal Allen, John T. Child, Anderson Martin.

NORTH-PROVIDENCE.—*St. Paul's Church.* Gideon L. Spencer, Danforth L. Peck, Daniel Wilkinson, Edward Walcott.

LONSDALE.—*Christ Church.* Jeremiah Whipple, Esek W. Dexter, Warren Cooke, Leonard M. Blodget.

MANVILLE.—*Emmanuel Church.* Arlon Man, Sanford W. Sears, Levi Cook,

WOONSOCKET.—*St. James's Church.* Samuel Greene, William Booth, Lebbeus C. Tourtellot, James H. Carpenter.

WESTERLY.—*Christ's Church.* Stephen Smith, jr. Levi L. Derby, Nelson Brown, James C. Albro.

EAST-GREENWICH.—*St. Luke's Church.* David Pinniger, Kingsley Bullock, John P. Roberts, Emery Fiske.

NORTH-KINGSTOWN.—*St. Paul's Church.* Alfred Updike, Gideon Freeborn, William A. Shaw, A. M. Thomas, Allen M. Bates.

TOWER HILL.—*St. Luke's Church.* Elisha F. Watson, Albert G. Robinson.

JAMESTOWN.—*St. Matthew's Church.* Jeremiah Hazard.

CHEPACHET.—*Church of the Nativity.* Cyrus Cooke.

NOTE.—No Lay Delegates attended the Convention from Trinity Church, Newport, and St. Peter's Church, Kingston.

# JOURNAL.

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WARREN, TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1837.

THIS being the day appointed by the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Rhode-Island, for the annual Convention of the same, the Clerical Members and Lay Delegates assembled, agreeably to the appointment of the last Convention, in St. Mark's Church, at nine o'clock, A. M. Morning service was read by the Rev. Messrs, D'Wolf and Nash. The Convention sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Pratt, and the holy communion administered by the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, assisted by the Rev. Messrs. Nash and Pratt.

After the religious services, the Rev. Dr. Crocker, President of the former Convention, took the chair, and the Convention came to order. The Rev. Mr. Hathaway, the former Secretary, having called over the list of names of the Clerical and Lay members of the Convention, the following of the Clergy, entitled to seats, appeared in attendance, viz. Rev. John Bristed, Lemuel Burge, Nathan B. Crocker, Erastus D'Wolf, John P. Fenner, George W. Hathaway, Louis Jansen, Ephraim Monroe, Sylvester Nash, Francis Peck, James Pratt, George Taft, Alexander H. Vinton, Henry Waterman, Edward Waylen, and John West.

Also the following Lay Delegates, viz. Messrs. Alexander Jones, Austin Gurney, William G. Goddard, Stephen T. Northam, John H. Gilliat, George S. Wardwell, George Andrews, John Burrington, Bateman Monroe, George Pearse, John G. Harding, Benjamin Hall, Nathan M. Wheaton, Paschal Allen, John T. Child, Anderson Martin, Danforth L. Peck, Daniel Wilkinson, Edward Walcott, Jeremiah Whipple, Warren Cooke, Samuel Greene, William Booth, Lebbeus E. Tourtellot, James H. Carpenter, Stephen Smith, jun. Levi L. Derby, James C. Albro, Kingsley Bullock, John P. Roberts, Emery Fiske, Allen M. Bates, Gideon Freeborn, William A. Shaw, A. M. Thomas and Elisha F. Watson.

The Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. was then re-elected President of the Convention, and the Rev. Ephraim Monroe was chosen Secretary.

The proceedings of the last Convention and the rules of order were then read, and the latter adopted as the rules of order for this Convention.

It was voted, that any Episcopal Clergyman, or candidate for holy orders, who may be present, and not a member, be invited to take honorary seats in the Convention.

The following gentlemen were then appointed a committee on the admission of new parishes, viz. the Rev. John West, the Rev. George W. Hathaway and Mr. John H. Gilliat.

Application having been received from St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown, for admission into union with the Convention, the above named committee examined the documents relative to the organization of said church, and reported the same to be in conformity with the canons; whereupon it was voted that St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown, be admitted into union with the Convention.

Jeremiah Hazard, Delegate from said Church, having presented his certificate, then appeared and took his seat.

It was voted that Mr. George W. Arnold be received by the Convention as a Delegate from Grace Church, Providence, in the place of Mr. Amasa Manton.

The following committees were then appointed:—

*On the unfinished business of the Convention*—Rev. Messrs. Hathaway, Nash and Pratt, and Samuel Greene, Esq.

*On the finances of the Convention*—Rev. George W. Hathaway, Stephen T. Northam and Alexander Jones, Esqrs.

*On the subject of Education*—Rev. Messrs. Hathaway and Waterman, and William G. Goddard, Esq.

*On Missionary operations within the State*—Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rev. John West, and Nathan M. Wheaton, Esq.

*On the subject of Sunday Schools*—Rev. Messrs. Pratt, Peck, and Stephen Smith, jun.

*To revise the Parochial Reports*—Rev. Messrs. Crocker, Hathaway and Waterman.

The Rev. Mr. West and Mr. Gilliat, of Newport, asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session, after the afternoon of this day.

Application was received through the Rev. Louis Jansen, from the Church of the Nativity, Chepachet, for admission into union with the Convention, which application was referred to the committee on the admission of new parishes.

Adjourned to meet at half past 2 o'clock, P. M.

At half past 2 o'clock, P. M. Convention re-assembled, agreeably to adjournment. After the calling of the roll, the minutes of the preceding session were read and approved, and James H. Carpenter was appointed Assistant Secretary.

The Rev. Salmon Wheaton, D. D. of Trinity Church, Newport, appeared and took his seat. Also Messrs. Sanford W. Sears and Levi Cook, Delegates from Emmanuel Church, Manville.

Mr. Hazard, of Jamestown, asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

The committee on the admission of new parishes, to whom had been referred the case of the Church of the Nativity, Chepachet, reported, that although some informality had appeared in the application of this Church, satisfactory evidence had been laid before them of its due organization.

and that in their opinion, it should be admitted. Whereupon it was resolved, that the Church of the Nativity, Chepachet, be admitted into union with the Convention.

Cyrus Cooke, Esq. having presented his certificate, was then received as Lay Delegate from said parish.

The Lay Delegate of the above named church was requested by the Convention to forward, as soon as may be, from the Clerk of the same, a certificate of its organization agreeably to the canons.

A communication was received through the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, former Secretary, from the Secretary of the General Convention, relating to the financial account between this and the General Convention, the subject of which was referred to the finance committee.

The committee on unfinished business reported a proposed alteration in the Constitution of the Church in this State, made at the last meeting, contemplating a change in the time of holding the annual Convention; the consideration of which was deferred until to-morrow.

Also certain resolutions of the General Convention, communicated by the Secretary of the same, received at the last annual Convention of the Church in this State, and laid over for the action of the present session; the matter of which resolutions was deferred for the consideration of the next Convention, and the resolution ordered to be entered on the journal. (See Appendix A.)

The Treasurer presented his annual Report, which was referred to the finance committee. (See Appendix B.)

The Rev. Mr. Hathaway, Chairman of the committee on education, made a Report on that subject. (See Appendix C.)

Rev. Mr. Pratt, Chairman of the committee on Sunday schools, presented a Report upon the subject. (See Appendix D.)

Whereupon it was resolved that this Report be accepted, and, together with that on Education, entered on the journal.

The Rev. Dr. Crocker, Chairman of the committee on Missions, then read a Report on the missionary operations of the Church in this State, which was accepted, and ordered to be entered on the journal. (See Appendix E.)

The parochial reports were now read, in order as follows:—

### CHRIST CHURCH, WESTERLY.

As we review the mercies of God manifested towards this branch of our Zion during the past Conventional year, we desire to be humbled in the view, and to acknowledge from the heart, "The mercy of the Lord endureth forever." And, indeed, if we cast our eye back to the period of its organization, and trace its history thence to the present moment, we shall find on every page indelible prints of that mercy which is in Christ Jesus.

It is now about two years and a half since this parish was first formed. At the time of its formation, inasmuch as little was known in this commu-



inity respecting the Episcopal Church, prejudices were found to be exceedingly strong. Nevertheless, as the inhabitants have seen the church moving forward in the name of Christ, and manifesting deep anxiety for the salvation of souls, these prejudices have given way. In evidence of this may be mentioned the fact, that a neat and beautiful church has been erected, and thoroughly furnished, at an expense of about \$6000. A parsonage house has been built upon the same lot with the church, cost about \$2000. And last, not least, through the Divine blessing, eighty-six souls have been gathered into the fold of Christ. Of this number, four have fallen asleep in Jesus—have gone home to their Father's house.

But to return to our report of the past year. Within that time the parsonage has been completed. It is a neat, well-finished, commodious house, showing but two stories in front, but having a basement story beneath the whole building. This basement was easily obtained, as the building stands upon an abrupt declivity. We have been in the occupancy of the house since last September. Our congregation has very materially increased, especially within the last few months. All our experience and observation prove that the Episcopal Church needs nothing to insure her success in any community, but a spirit of inquiry; and whether this spirit be awakened by friend or foe, the result will always be the same—she will acquire warm and devoted friends.

During the past year, as in former days, God has shown himself ready to hear and answer the prayers of his children. Sinners have been converted; and though the Spirit came not upon us as "a rushing, mighty wind," yet has its "still, small voice" been effectual in leading souls to Christ. By reference to the annexed table, the number added may be ascertained.

The Sunday school has been and still is in a very interesting state. About three months since, an unusual seriousness was observed among the children, which soon became so strongly marked, as to induce the Pastor to appoint a time when he would meet those who were inquiring the way of life. This meeting was attended by twelve of the oldest scholars, five of whom having given good evidence of a change of heart, have been baptized and admitted to the communion. Several others are now candidates for baptism. Let Sabbath school teachers take courage. "In due time they shall reap, if they faint not." The children have raised in ten months last past, by penny contributions, \$10 65 for missions.

The ladies' sewing circle pursues the even tenor of its way with laudable industry and perseverance. As highly as we prize these clusters of devoted ones, attached to our several parishes, I fear we do not yet fully appreciate their self-denying, self-sacrificing spirit. It is above all praise. The circle connected with this Church has raised \$310 since its organization (two and a half years ago) and this without that foreign aid which some of its sister circles have received.

Our Tract Society has, during the past year, considerably extended its



field of operations. Besides supplying every family in the village, with two or three exceptions, we have now six distributors in the surrounding country, and thus more than two hundred of these silent messengers are sent abroad each month.

An Education Society has recently been formed under encouraging circumstances. At its first meeting it was resolved to sustain one fourth the expense attending the education of a young man for the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Our weekly exercises are as follows, viz. preaching twice, and, half the winter, three times on the Sabbath. When a third sermon is not delivered, the lecture room is open in the evening for public service. The ladies meet in the sewing circle on Tuesday afternoon. On Wednesday evening the lecture room is again open for divine service in the conference meeting. Friday is set apart for the female praying circle. Until the Church of Christ throws off her militant character and puts on the triumphant, may this meeting never be suspended! On Saturday evening we have a teachers' meeting and Bible Class at the Parsonage. In addition, we observe the monthly concert of prayer for the divine blessing upon the cause of missions.

The records of the Church show of adult baptisms 16; infant do. including those not reported last year, 7; total, 23. Communicants before reported, 63; do. added, 21; deceased, 2; present number, 82; confirmed, 18; Sunday scholars, 105; average attendance, 80; teachers, female, 12; do. male, 7; marriage, 1; burials, 13.

JAMES PRATT, RECTOR.

*Westerly, June 8, 1837.*

#### ST. PETER'S CHURCH, KINGSTON.

It is with heartfelt regret that the undersigned finds himself again called upon to report the state of this Church. His regret arises from the fact that it has no Pastor to stand in his place. We desire to be thankful, however, that among the members of this too much and too long neglected Church, there prevails a spirit of faithfulness, nay of devotion, very rarely to be found under like circumstances. There are many manifestations of the Spirit to be seen among them. Of the many, the following is prominent, and certainly most praise-worthy: about four months ago, they commenced a subscription for the purpose of erecting a Church edifice; about \$750 had been subscribed among themselves, when the present pressure induced them to suspend for the present all further effort. In addition to the above sum, \$100 has been pledged, by a dear brother, and formerly a fellow laborer in this diocese. Though the people at Kingston have been thus checked in their laudable undertaking, we believe it to be their determination to accomplish their object as soon as possible.

Three have been confirmed in this parish since the last Convention. Besides this, I know not that any other acts have been performed.

J. PRATT.

*June 13, 1837.*

## ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, TOWER HILL.

To the Minister of Jesus Christ, every page in the history of his experience affords abundant cause both for thanksgiving and humiliation. This sentiment has forced itself very strongly upon the mind of your unworthy servant, during the past year. To our great grief we have seen the Church, over which we trust the Holy Ghost has placed us, cold, luke-warm and indifferent, to a great extent, in the cause of our blessed Redeemer. But God in his great mercy has granted us a little reviving. During the last autumn and winter, there has been a better state of things. Numbers in the judgment of charity have become followers of the Lamb of God. Among these there have been several heads of families. At the present time we see some tokens for good among our dear people. But with the return of those cares which are peculiar to the farmer, many seem in a great degree to lose the fervency of their zeal, and the high tone of their devotion. Several who give some evidence of being the servants of Christ, have not yet been baptized. Fifteen have been baptized; 12 adults, 3 infants.—Some Methodists and some Baptists commune with us as often as the ordinance is enjoyed. Without these brethren, we have 30 resident communicants. Marriages, 4; funerals, 6.

ERASTUS D'WOLF, MINISTER.

*June 13, 1837.*

## ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, JAMESTOWN.

The undersigned entered on his labors in this parish, last Easter. Its limits embrace the island of Conannicut, which is nine miles in its extreme length, and averages one mile and a half broad. This spot, though so immediately in the neighborhood of gospel privileges, has hitherto been without a settled Minister at any period. Out of a population of four hundred souls, there are, besides a society of seven Quakers, only six members of any Christian denomination, and only one of this number in communion with the Episcopal Church.

About four years ago, the inhabitants, who compose an intelligent body of substantial land cultivators and their domestics, feeling the want of stated religious ordinances, united in erecting a place of worship, capable of seating two hundred persons. The pulpit was occasionally supplied by ministers of different denominations, and (as a necessary consequence) the religious feeling of the people, thus blown about by different winds of doctrine, retrograded instead of advancing, till the summer of last year, when the pew-holders called in the aid of the Rhode-Island Convocation, by which body a debt of \$165, resting on the building, was discharged, and the deed thereof taken in trust. The attention of the people was, in some measure aroused, through the efforts of the Rev. Washington Van Zandt, then a lay reader, whose services were generously bestowed in this interesting field of labor.

Through the kindness of Newport friends connected with Zion Church, the building has been tastefully remodded as an Episcopal Church, and is now ready for consecration. The Vestry have passed a resolve to take up a quarterly collection to defray the incidental expenses attending divine worship, and engaged the services of a sexton, at a suitable salary. The attendance at Church is highly encouraging. Since the undersigned commenced his ministerial functions, the Sunday afternoon and evening congregations have seldom fallen short of a hundred, and for the most part have considerably exceeded that number. Wednesday evening meetings have been held during the last three months, though the attendance on them has been comparatively small. A Sunday school of eighteen children has been gathered, and two young people, besides the undersigned, are engaged in it. A library of books has also been purchased, which numbers 60 volumes.

Thus far the general aspect of things is encouraging. Though the undersigned is as yet unable to report any addition of communicants, yet justice requires him to bear his testimony to the attentive seriousness manifested in the house of God. That the plants of grace have taken root in some hearts, he is fully persuaded, and he looks forward to the time, (which he trusts is near at hand) when, through the Holy Spirit's quickening influence, those plants will display their fruit-bearing branches.

EDWARD WAYLEN, MINISTER.

*June 12, 1837.*

#### ZION CHURCH, NEWPORT.

Marriages, 7; baptisms, infant 5, adult 6, 11; confirmations, 16; burials, 2; communicants added, 18, removed 4; total, 128; Sunday scholars, about 200; teachers, 30; vols. in library, 500; Bible class, 20.

The weekly services in this parish are two regular services on Sunday, a meeting of the Ladies' Convocation Society, a Sunday school teachers' meeting, a Bible class, and a prayer meeting. A missionary meeting is held on the first Monday evening of each month, and there is also a monthly meeting of the Wardens and Vestry-men, to superintend the secular affairs of the Church, which has proved of great importance to the interests of the parish.

The general state of this parish is progressively prosperous. Its pecuniary interests have been materially advanced, during the last year, by the entire extinguishment of the large debt incurred in the building of the Church. This was effected last fall, and is an instance of liberality and enterprise that deserves to be recorded. The sum of \$6000 was raised by subscription for this purpose, of which \$5000 was a donation, the residue being an investment in pews purchased of the corporation. By this noble act, the parish, instead of being in debt \$6000, is wholly free from debt, and possessed of a fund in pews to the amount of several thousand dollars. Besides this, the sum of \$1000 has been subscribed and pledged towards the erection of a lecture room, a project which was undertaken previously to the effort to pay the debt, but which has been postponed for the present,

the funds collected being kept in reserve for this purpose. In the mean time, the want of a lecture room has been supplied by the liberality of a generous member of the parish, who has afforded us, gratuitously, the use of a building where we have ample and agreeable accommodations for the two departments of the Sunday school, a library, and every other object for which such a building is needed.

In conclusion it may be remarked, that the increase of this Church and congregation has been as great as, under ordinary circumstances, could have been expected, during the current year, and the accession of members, though not large, has been respectable in number; and as to character, it has been in no common degree valuable and interesting. In relation to the spiritual prosperity of the Church generally, candor requires me to say, that it has not kept pace with its outward advance. In this respect the Church appears to be governed by the same great laws that control the affairs of the world. Bodies of men, under any circumstances of association, move on together in the attainment of their object with the greatest zeal and harmony under the pressure of outward difficulties. So that in the Church as well as in the world, a state of prosperity is seldom attended with great and real improvement. This fact should lead us to cultivate more assiduously, under such circumstances, the grace of humility, and should bring to remembrance the sacred admonition "not to trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God," for "he that trusteth in his riches shall fall."

I should fail in a proper expression of gratitude to the great Head of the Church, should I omit to mention, in addition to other mercies, the remarkable exemption from death which has been mercifully granted to this parish during the period of my labors among them, especially during this last year, which has elsewhere swelled the records of mortality to so unusual a size. During the past year, *not a single death* has occurred in my parish, the two reported being strangers; and the deaths for the last four years have not been *so many as four in a year*; and that among nearly *one hundred families*.

JOHN WEST, Rector.

*Newport, June 12, 1837.*

### TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT.

The records of this Church show, of baptisms, adults, 4; infants, 5; total, 9; marriages, 5; funerals, 18; persons confirmed, 6; communicants added, 10; died, 4; removed, 4; present number, 127; Sunday school teachers, 20; scholars, 184; volumes in the library, 555.

SALMON WHEATON, Rector.

### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH.

The usual services on the Lord's day have been uniformly maintained, during the last Conventional year. There has been generally a third service in the Church, or in a private dwelling. The principal festivals and



fasts have been observed; and in Lent there was service and a sermon on Wednesdays and Fridays. There have been one or two meetings for social worship during the week, and a female prayer meeting weekly. The Sunday school has been maintained throughout the year; and has had the supervision of the Rector. The teacher's concert on the second Monday evening in the month has been observed. The pews in the Church have been nearly all let or sold.

Thirteen copies of "The Christian Witness" are taken by subscription, and ten more are circulated gratuitously.

The parish is substantially in a more sound, healthy, and prosperous state than it has ever been. The Church is slowly but surely progressing. Every year's experience evinces more strikingly how greatly it was needed; and how great a blessing it has been, still is, and by the divine favor will hereafter be to the community. It is a growing bond of union and attachment within its borders, and its influence around has been to produce greater zeal and increased action among other denominations. Improved means of mental and moral culture for the youth, zealous co-operation on the part of parents, more general intelligence, and a higher valuation of religious privileges, are essential to its more speedy growth.

Since its foundation in July, 1833, there have been 35 members gathered; 8 have been added the last year; 3 having removed, the present number is 25; baptized adults, 4; confirmed, 6. Sunday school superintendent, 1; teachers, 7; scholars, 20 to 30; marriages, 1; burials, 3.

J. P. FENNER, Rector.

*Portsmouth, R. I. June 14, 1837.*

### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BRISTOL.

It pleased Almighty God to bless the meeting of our Clerical Convocation at St. Michael's in January last. The faithful and able services of the reverend clergy left a deep and lasting impression for good; which, under the divine blessing upon the devoted labors of the Rev. Francis Peck, has ripened into the conversion of many precious, priceless souls. The subjoined report of our younger brother will show that the blessing has been largely poured out upon the Sabbath scholars; in addition to which, some intelligent heads of families have been permitted to strengthen and quicken the parish, many of whose elder members have at length waked up from the long-drawn slumber of successive years. May God in mercy grant that the parish never again shall present so sad a declension from the fervor of its first love as past years have exhibited. The tide of the late awakening has ebbed; and whether it shall return or not, must depend, under God, upon the faithfulness of professing Christians. During the past year, 10 adults and 10 infants have been baptized; 7 marriages and 25 burials have taken place; 43 communicants have been added; 2 have died, and 4 have left the town; the whole number is 267. The religious services of the parish are, on the Lord's day, prayers and preaching twice in the



Church ; a prayer meeting in the morning ; prayers and lecture in the evening, in the lecture room. Monday evenings are occupied with monthly concerts for prayer for missionary, Sabbath school, female prayer, and other efforts of benevolence ; Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings we have conference meetings ; on Wednesday evening the Female Missionary Society meets ; on Friday evening the Sabbath school teachers meet ; and on Saturday afternoon the Rev. Francis Peck holds a Bible class in the lecture room. Pastoral visiting is attended to by both the resident Clergymen. The Female Missionary Society has paid into the Treasury of the Rhode-Island Clerical Convocation two hundred dollars during the last year. Our Education Society sustains, at Washington College, Hartford (Conn.) a beneficiary, with a view to his taking orders in our Church. Our parish last year has contributed \$500 to religious purposes.

Our Maternal Association continues to bless both mothers and children, and promises, by God's help, materially to quicken the spiritual growth of our Church. That Jehovah may prosper this and every other labor of love, to the advancement of His own glory, and the safety, honor and welfare of His people, is the fervent prayer of

JOHN BRISTED, RECTOR.

*Bristol, R. I. June 13, 1837.*

P. S. May I venture to express my opinion that Sunday morning prayer meetings are peculiarly calculated to quicken the spiritual growth of a Church. The communicants meet together to pray for themselves, their Pastor, their brethren and sisters in Christ, their perishing fellow-sinners, the whole world ; and thus tend to solemnize the services of the sanctuary, to render the Sabbath itself a day of delight, to carry its sanctifying influences into all the secular pursuits of the coming week, and to build up the Church of God in the beauty of holiness.

#### REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT MINISTER.

In referring to those departments of labor to which allusion is made in the above report, as having fallen more immediately under my own supervision, I would desire to express heart-felt thankfulness to Him who hath crowned our feeble efforts with success. We would ascribe to God alone that glory justly due to Him who holdeth in his hand the hearts of all, and turns them at his will.

Our Sabbath school is eminently flourishing. We have 24 ladies and 15 gentlemen regularly engaged in the work of instruction ; who, with the exception of six of the former and five of the latter, are professors of religion. Under their charge are 200 children, 87 male and 113 female, training, as we trust, not only for usefulness in the present life, but for a bright inheritance in that which is beyond.

Constant effort has been made to render our labors effectual, not only to the enlightening the intellect, but to the conversion of the heart. This endeavor has not been in vain. From our more advanced female classes, eight have, within the year, confessed the faith of Christ crucified, and so

far as the outward deportment is an index of the inward spirit, they adorn their high profession. Among our teachers, we have been permitted to witness several delightful illustrations of the scripture promise, "He that watereth shall be watered also himself." Four of them have recently been numbered among the followers of the Saviour.

The library contains 400 volumes, the care and distribution of which devolve upon three gentlemen, while two are occupied in the immediate inspection of the school.

Our Infant school, recently established, is increasing. At present it numbers about 25 scholars, under the guidance of two instructors.

The Bible class is in a good degree accomplishing the purpose of its institution, that of more firmly establishing our young communicants from the Sabbath school, and affording an opportunity for more familiar acquaintance, on the part of the more advanced Christian, with the charter of his immortal hopes, the word of God.

FRANCIS PECK.

#### ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN.

The Rector of St. Mark's Church is happy to be able to report his parish as in a flourishing state. The services of the sanctuary are attended by a large and attentive congregation. Ten have been added to the communion, Six have removed, and one has died; present number of communicants, 115. Fourteen have been baptized, (4 adults and 10 children;) 9 have been confirmed. There have been 12 burials, and 5 marriages. The Sunday school consists of 120 scholars and 18 teachers, and the library of 250 volumes.

A new organ has been purchased and placed in the Church, built by the Messrs. Hook, Boston, which cost about \$1700. We feel that we have had great cause for gratitude, and unceasing confidence in the mercy and goodness of God.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, RECTOR.

#### ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

There will be truth as well as brevity in the report from St. John's Church; and the object of these statements fully answered, when it is said that the baptisms, et cetera, during the past year, vary but little from those of the preceding.

The Sunday school is in a much more prosperous condition.

N. B. CROCKER, RECTOR.

*Providence, June 12, 1837.*

#### GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

The records of Grace Church exhibit as the total number of communicants, 227. During the past year, 15 have been added; 14 have removed from the city, and 4 have died. The number of baptisms is 19; 10 of adults and 9 of infants. There have been 8 marriages and 21 burials.

In connection with this Church, are societies in aid of the several leading enterprises of Christian benevolence, the amount of whose contributions for the year ending at Easter last was about \$400. Besides this, the sum of \$300 has been contributed by the ladies' sewing circle in behalf of the Rhode-Island Convocation, which, though falling short of some former donations, was earned only by zealous and well-sustained labors.

The Sunday school has an average attendance of about 100 pupils, (the register number being considerably larger) and from 25 to 30 teachers. This Church contributes \$75 annually towards the support of a beneficiary in the General Theological Seminary.

The public religious exercises during the year have consisted of the stated services of the Church on Sunday, with a lecture in the evening during the winter. A meeting of the Bible class has been held during the week, and once a month a missionary meeting, besides occasional meetings for the direct promotion of other benevolent efforts. A meeting of the Sabbath school teachers is held every Friday evening, for the purpose of studying the lesson for the following Sunday. At these meetings the Minister is generally present. During Passion Week, morning services were held in the lecture room, followed by a familiar lecture.

The attendance on the ordinary services of the Church has been moderately full, while the occasional meetings in aid of the objects of religious benevolence have been comparatively neglected, especially by the male members of the congregation. The effect of this latter circumstance is seen in the scanty contributions to these objects, and on more accounts than one, is especially to be deplored. It is a zeal for these which marks the pulse of piety in the Church, because it is the natural movement of a heart truly alive to the conviction that it is not its own, but is bought with a price. Moreover, at a time like the present, when commercial difficulty is obstructing the current of religious effort, it is well an added impulse should be given to the cause by those Churches which have felt most lightly the pressure of the times. It is the languor of exhaustion, and not of indifference, which is excusable. This statement, when compared with the former reports of this Church, shows a remarkable decline from the prosperity which marked its earlier history. This to a certain extent may be accounted for, though not excused, by the circumstance that for many months after the resignation of its former Rector, the parish was without the services of a Pastor, and for a length of time the labors of its present Minister have been providentially interrupted.

Although the general condition of the parish forbids any statement but this, yet it has particular aspects which are more cheering. The teachers' meetings have been well attended, and are felt to be the most interesting and profitable of all our exercises. They are conducted in the way of conversation, and they bring before us naturally many practical truths of scripture, as well as other topics connected with a teacher's duty. They have accordingly had the effect of impressing upon the teacher a deeper sense of responsibility, and a more active devotion to the Master's cause. The number of scholars has thus been considerably enlarged, and among some of the elder children, there are marks of devout seriousness. To this it ought to

be added, that in the congregation at large there are instances of religious seriousness and advancement, which show the gospel to have been not altogether without its proper effect. We notice these favorable circumstances as tending somewhat to qualify the impression of a general view of this parish; and while we would dwell upon them as the subjects of earnest thanksgiving, we would draw from them the augury of a fuller blessing in reserve.

June 13, 1837.

ALEXANDER H. VINTON, MINISTER.

### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-PROVIDENCE.

The Rector of St. Paul's Church reports, marriages, 17; funerals 56, (10 only in his own parish) baptisms, 20; confirmations, 32; communicants, 176; Sunday scholars, 153; superintendent and teachers, 27; volumes in the library, about 400.

This parish has flourished during the last Conventional year. The congregation has steadily increased. Several have been added to the communion of the Church. Connected with the Sunday school is a large Bible class which has been greatly blessed. Missionary operations are going on successfully; female members of the Church meet once a week for prayer; the monthly concert for prayer is held on the first Monday evening in each month. Lectures are preached on Sunday and Wednesday evenings of each week. The children are catechised once a month. Parochial visitation is attended to, as far as the Pastor's numerous avocations will permit. A Church is, occasionally, held for the children, where they sustain the responsive parts of the service, and a sermon, suited to their capacity, is preached to them. The communicants are met with, from time to time, and instructions are given them as to the nature of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and as to the preparation of the heart for its worthy reception. The saints' days, festivals and fasts, have been observed and well attended, throughout the entire ecclesiastical year. Teachers' meetings are held regularly every week. The Rector of St. Paul's has abundant reason for thankfulness to the great Head of the Church, for the precious blessings bestowed upon himself, and upon the dear people committed to his charge; and from past mercies, he takes encouragement for renewed and increased exertions in the future.

June 13, 1837.

GEORGE TAFT, RECTOR.

### EMMANUEL CHURCH, MANVILLE.

It is justly a source of gratitude to the Author of all good, from him upon whom it devolves to minister in holy things, to observe in connection with his labors, a degree of interest and attention to whatever relates *externally* to the furtherance of the Christian object. But it is more deeply a source of satisfaction and joy when he can witness the stronger tokens of the divine approbation in those obvious fruits of spiritual improvement, chiefly aimed at by the gospel, and which signally evince God's presence and blessing, with his appointed means of grace. The latter has not been the



case to any marked extent, during the last Conventional year, with respect to the parish of Emmanuel Church. From a survey, however, of the whole circumstances of this infant parish, we are far from wanting in motives of encouragement.

For more than a year past, public worship has been sustained much to the credit of those concerned, entirely independent of any pecuniary aid from abroad.

Our services, which are the same in number as reported at the last Convention, are still attended by many who seem to value the means of grace; and our congregations show, on the whole, a measurable increase of attendance. In addition to the services already held, circumstances seem favorable for the immediate formation of a weekly Bible class, from which we may anticipate favorable results. It is also in contemplation to form of such of the younger part of our congregation as shall be disposed to attend, a circle to meet one evening in each week, to hear religious reading. The Sunday school, which is superintended by the undersigned in person, and which is deemed by him by no means the least interesting and promising portion of his field of labor, is well attended, and affords at present more decided indications for good than at any previous period.

Among other matters of parochial duty attended to by the undersigned, no inconsiderable degree of attention has been given to visiting the sick. Under these circumstances, we have sometimes imparted spiritual counsel. In some cases it has been our privilege to mingle our prayers and sympathies with the pious, and impart consolation to the dying saint; and in others to point the anxious penitent to the cross of Christ. How far these means may have been useful to the subjects of them, or attended with the divine blessing, the day of God will show.

There have been in this parish, during the past year, at which the undersigned has officiated, marriages, 9; burials, 6.

E. MONROE, MINISTER.

June 13, 1837.

### ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, WOONSOCKET.

Baptisms (adults 4) 14; marriages, 8; funerals, 5; communicants (added 9) 32; confirmed, 4.

The list of communicants, it is thought, is more accurately given than it has been heretofore. Some names having been erased, the sum total is not as large as the additions would otherwise have made it.

Our services during the past year have been as before, two on every Lord's day, and one on Wednesday evenings. There has been a more general attention paid to the devotional part of public worship; and the attachment to our Liturgy and Polity, has, it is believed, grown more steady and enlightened. Until the present reverses in business commenced, our congregation had been slowly gathering numbers, strength and stability, and there was an encouraging prospect, that it would soon be able to put on the vigor of a prosperous manhood. But that prospect has been somewhat



darkened. The capacity of self-support, which we fondly hoped had been almost attained, has been suddenly and seriously affected. Our numbers, however, remain as large as ever, if not larger, notwithstanding the removals which have taken place. And should we be favored with extraneous aid, doubtless the Church here will ere long regain its former condition.

Our Sunday school is not as flourishing as at the last report. The removals just alluded to, have thinned the ranks of both teachers and scholars. We have at present from forty to fifty scholars in regular attendance, under the care of nine teachers.

The ladies' sewing circle, which, at our last report, we mentioned as having been organized, have continued their useful labors, with results at once creditable and encouraging. At the expiration of their *first* year's operations, on Easter Tuesday last, the Treasury contained *eighty dollars*, over and above the expenses which they had incurred.

The usual Easter collection and the one in behalf of the Bishop's salary, have been duly attended to.

*June 13, 1837.*

H. WATERMAN, MINISTER.

#### ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, EAST-GREENWICH.

No change worthy of special notice has occurred in this parish within the year.

The services have been generally well attended, the Bible class continued, and the ladies' society has been active, as heretofore.

Communicants, 42; marriages, 3; funerals, 15; Sunday scholars, 89; teachers, 16; books in Sabbath school library, 311.

S. NASH, RECTOR.

*East-Greenwich, June 12, 1837.*

#### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-KINGSTOWN.

This Church having been closed since September last, until about the first of last month, remains much the same as at the last Convention. She now numbers twenty-four Episcopal families. Within her pale are fifty-five members, twenty-seven of whom are in full communion.

She has a Sunday school in successful operation, with an average attendance of scholars in number about forty. Nine teachers, with cheerfulness and a becoming zeal, are devoted to this noble work. There is a library belonging to said school, containing 150 volumes.

Within this Church, also, there is a small sewing circle, whose ardour and zeal in the cause in which they have engaged (to their credit be it named) are on the increase. Since the last report, they have paid towards the organ debt, fifty dollars, and to the Rev. Mr. Peck, for Convocation purposes, thirty two dollars; and have, or should have now in the Treasury, about eight dollars; in all, ninety dollars.

LEMUEL BURGE, RECTOR.

*Wickford, June 13, 1837.*

## CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY, CHEPACHET.

In presenting a report of the rise and progress of this parish, the Minister persuades himself, that, although it is not his privilege to tell of those visitations of the Spirit, effecting that which it is the joy of the Christian to contemplate, and the grand design of the missionary operations to secure—the salvation of many souls—yet such have been the peculiar circumstances of its history, that he feels confident, that an interest more than ordinary, is taken therein. It was organized the early part of last October. Previously to this, for several years past, except for brief intervals, there had been an almost entire destitution of regular religious services, of any kind whatever; and although several denominations of Christians had repeatedly made efforts to establish themselves there, none had succeeded—all grew discouraged, and retired therefrom. By one of those acts of mercy which evince the divine solicitude for the salvation of men, the religious condition of this place was providentially brought before the Convocation; the members thereof visited it—a parish was organized, and a missionary sent to labor therein. The field thus marked out, presented a population of about 400 inhabitants, generally intelligent, and more than ordinarily intellectual; but one where Christians were to be made, not to be found—there being, with a few exceptions, no professors in the place. From that period to the present, such has been the peculiarity of the soil, the labors of the missionary have been those of the plough, rather than the sickle—the toil of preparation, not the pleasures of ingathering—the scattering of light, to exhibit the claims of the Church to the confidence and affections of the community, rather than the delightful task of receiving at her altar the penitent enquirer. Whilst, however, he has been made to see that the breaking up of the ground is the first thing necessary, and that the sower must precede the reaper, he has been encouraged by beholding the upspringing of a few blades, which justify the hope that a harvest will at some future period be granted, though at present it tarry. Sources of encouragement are derived from the facts—

That there is now gathered a regular and attentive congregation, who listen to the truths of the gospel, and join in the services of the Church—that ignorance and prejudice in reference thereto are undermined and removed; and for some time past a more than ordinary interest has been taken to secure the continuance of our services, and a willingness expressed to take immediate measures for the raising of funds towards the support of the ministry. The Minister would beg leave to impress upon the mind, that although other parishes, from the peculiar facilities that have been afforded, and the gracious out-pouring of the Spirit, have arisen rapidly and flourish, it is believed that in no region of this State is the establishment of our Church more necessary; and even should it take several years of toil, no place where it would exert a more powerful influence on the surrounding population, or be a greater blessing to generations to come. And whilst we are thankful for any good that may already

have been accomplished, we have increasing evidence afforded, that the Church needs but to be understood, to be established; and to be established, to be felt. May the rapid extension of its borders and the increase of its spirituality, afford to us the best of all demonstrations that "God is with us."

The statistics of the parish are as follows: Burials, 9; weddings, 1; Sabbath scholars, 60; teachers, 10; library, 150 volumes.

LOUIS JANSEN, MINISTER.

June 15, 1837.

Voted, That the Convention now proceed to the further election of officers.

The following were elected members of the Standing Committee for the year ensuing: Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. George Taft, George W. Hathaway and Alexander H. Vinton, of the Clergy; George Mumford, Benjamin Cowell, Resolved Waterman and Daniel Greene, Esqrs. of the laity.

The following were elected delegates to the General Convention: Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. George W. Hathaway, John West and James Pratt, of the Clergy; Edward S. Wilkinson, Benjamin Hall, Alexander Jones and Rowse Babcock, jun. Esqrs. of the laity.

Alexander Jones, Esq. was re-elected Treasurer.

It was resolved, that the next annual Convention meet at Christ Church, Westerly, on the second Tuesday of June, 1838.

Voted, That the Rev. Mr. West, in addition to the Rev. Mr. Pratt, authorized at the last Convention, be appointed to prepare the report of the state of the Church in this State, for the use of the General Convention.

Mr. Wilkinson, delegate from St. Paul's Church, North-Providence, asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

Messrs. Jeremiah Whipple and Warren Cooke, delegates from Christ Church, Lonsdale, were granted leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

Convention adjourned until to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, NINE O'CLOCK, A. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Religious services having immediately preceded, the Convention proceeded to business.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The report of the committee on Education was taken up, and the resolutions therein proposed having been read, were severally adopted. (See Appendix C.)

In pursuance of the adoption of these resolutions, the following were appointed a Board of Education for the ensuing year: Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. George W. Hathaway and William G. Goddard, Esq.

A collection was taken up, amounting to \$15 50, and the following

pledges were made in behalf of the several Churches in the State, for sustaining the operations of the Education cause for the year ensuing, viz.

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| St. Paul's Church, North-Kingstown, (Rev. Mr. Burge) | \$10  |
| St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill, - - -                 | 10    |
| St. Paul's Church, North-Providence, - - -           | 25    |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren, - - - -                   | 25    |
| St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, - - -                 | 5     |
| Christ Church, Westerly, - - - -                     | 25    |
| Emmanuel Church, Manville, - - - -                   | 10    |
| Grace Church, Providence, - - - -                    | 75    |
| Zion Church, Newport, - - - -                        | 75    |
| St. James's Church, Woonsocket, - - -                | 10    |
| Christ Church, Lonsdale, - - - -                     | 10    |
| St. John's Church, Providence, - - - -               | 75    |
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol, - - -                 | 75    |
| <hr/>  |       |
| Total,   | \$430 |

The committee appointed to revise the parochial reports, made report thereon, recommending the same to be published in their present form, which report was accepted, and the parochial reports ordered to be published in the journal.

It was resolved that 1000 copies of the journal be published, and the same be distributed under the direction of the publishing committee.

The Rev. Dr. Crocker, William G. Goddard, Esq. and the Secretary, were appointed the committee of publication.

The Rev. Ephraim Monroe, and the Rev. Francis Peck, his substitute, were appointed to preach the next Convention sermon.

It was voted, that the further consideration of the proposed alteration of the Constitution, deferred yesterday, be indefinitely postponed.

It was voted, that the Rev. Messrs. Taft, Pratt and Peck, be appointed a Board to superintend the Sunday school operations within this State, and to report thereon at the next annual Convention.

The committee on the finances of the Convention, made a report, which was accepted, and the resolution therein proposed, adopted. (See Appendix F.)

A report was read from the Standing Committee, which was accepted, and ordered to be published with the journal, at the discretion of the publishing committee. (See Appendix G.)

The minutes of the session were then read and approved. After singing the 107th Psalm, and the benediction by the President, the Convention adjourned sine die.

EPHRAIM MONROE, Sec'ry.



## APPENDIX A.

### PROPOSED ALTERATIONS IN THE CONSTITUTION.

*Resolved*, That the following alterations in the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, be and are hereby proposed, and that they be made known to the several State Conventions.

Article fifth to be altered so as to read as follows:—

A Protestant Episcopal Church in any part of the United States, or any Territory thereof, not now represented, may, at any time hereafter, be admitted, on acceding to this Constitution; and a new diocese, to be formed from one or more existing dioceses, may be admitted under the following restrictions:

No new diocese shall be formed or created within the limits of any other diocese; nor shall any diocese be formed by the junction of two or more dioceses, or parts of dioceses, unless with the consent of the Bishop and Convention of each of the dioceses concerned, as well as of the General Convention.

No such new diocese shall be formed, which shall contain less than 8000 square miles in one body, and thirty presbyters, who have been, for at least one year, canonically resident within the bounds of such new diocese, regularly settled in a parish or congregation, and qualified to vote for a Bishop. Nor shall such new diocese be formed, if thereby any existing diocese shall be so reduced, as to contain less than 8000 square miles, or less than thirty presbyters, who have been residing therein, and settled and qualified as above mentioned.

In case one diocese shall be divided into two dioceses, the diocesan of the diocese divided, may elect the one to which he will be attached, and shall, thereupon, become the diocesan thereof; and the assistant Bishop, if there be one, may elect the one to which he will be attached; and, if it be not the one elected by the Bishop, he shall be the diocesan thereof.

Whenever the division of a diocese into two dioceses shall be ratified by the General Convention, each of the two dioceses shall be subject to the constitution and canons of the diocese so divided; except as local circumstances prevent, until the same may be altered in either diocese by the Convention thereof. And whenever a diocese shall be formed out of two or more existing dioceses, the new diocese shall be subject to the constitutional canons of that one of the said existing dioceses to which the greater number of clergymen shall have belonged, prior to the erection of such new diocese, until the same may be altered by the Convention of the new diocese.

Strike out the word "States," wherever it occurs in the first and second articles, except where it follows the word "United," in the first part of the first article, and insert in lieu of the word "States," the word "dioceses." Strike out the word "States," wherever it occurs in the second, third and fourth articles, and insert in lieu thereof the word "diocese." Strike out the words "or district," in the fourth article. Strike out the word "State," in the sixth article, and insert the word "diocese."

Strike out the word "States," in the eighth article, and insert the word "dioceses;" and in the eighth article strike out the words "or State," after the words "every diocese."

Strike out the word "States," in the ninth article, and insert the word "dioceses." Strike out the word "State," in the ninth article, and insert the word "diocesan."



PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE TABLE OF MOVABLE  
FEASTS.

*Resolved*, That it be made known to the Convention of every diocese, that it is proposed to add to the note in the Table of Movable Feasts, according to the several days that Easter can possibly fall upon, the words "unless the Table gives some day in the month of March for it—for in that case the day given by the Table is the right day."

*Done in General Convention in the city of Philadelphia, August, 1835.*

APPENDIX B.

DR. *Rhode-Island Episcopal Convention in account with*  
ALEXANDER JONES, *Treasurer.* CR.

| 1836.   | \$ C.    | 1836.   | \$ C.    |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| June 15. To cash to J. Bristed,                                   |          | June 15. By cash of Geo. S.                               |          |
| to pay Bishop's ass't, 37   | 75       | Wardwell, balance   |          |
| " To do. pd Dr. Crocker for do.                                   | 29       | of account,   | 17 83    |
| " To do. pd S. T. Northam for advances at Portsmouth,             | 10       | " By do. St. Paul's Ch. Pawtucket,                        | 1 50     |
| " To do. pd Lt. Abbot, 5  |          | " By do. St. Paul's, Portsmouth, 1835,                    | 3 75     |
| " To do. pd A. Jones, do. 10                                      |          | " By do. St. Mark's, Warren, do.                          | 18       |
| " To do. pd Rev. Mr. Hathaway, for copying journal,               | 5        | " By do. do. do. 1836,                                    | 7 50     |
| " To do. pd postage, 1835,  | 2        | " By do. Zion Church, Newport, 1835,                      | 12 50    |
| " To pd. do. do. 1836,  | 2        | " By do. do. do. 1836,                                    | 12 20    |
| Aug. 11. To do. pd balance due E. A. Marshal for journal of 1835, | 55       | " By do. St. James's, Woonsocket, 1835,                   | 3 75     |
| Oct. 20. To do. paid H. H. Brown on acct.                         | 30       | " By do. do. do. 1836,                                    | 6 25     |
| 1837.   |          | " By do. Tower Hill, '35,                                 | 6        |
| June 13. To balance on hand,                                      | 58       | " By do. do. do. 1836,                                    | 3 75     |
|   |          | " By do. Westerly, do.                                    | 6 25     |
|   |          | " By do. E. Greenwich, do.                                | 6 25     |
|   |          | " By do. Manville, do.                                    | 3 75     |
|   |          | " By do. Bristol, '35 and '36,                            | 16 25    |
|   |          | July By do. Grace Church, Providence, 1836,               | 15       |
|   |          | " By do. St. John's, do.                                  | 15       |
|   |          | Aug. 12. By do. Trinity, Newport, 1835,                   | 12 50    |
|   |          | Oct. 15. By do. St. Paul's, Pawtucket, 1834, '35 and '36, | 18       |
|   | \$186 33 |   | \$186 33 |
|   |          | 1837.   |          |
|   |          | June 13. By cash to balance, per Contra,                  | 58       |

E. E.

ALEXANDER JONES, *Treasurer.*

*Providence, June 13, 1837.*

## APPENDIX C.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

After a more active missionary spirit had been awakened among the Churches in this State, through the agency of the Clerical Convocation, a want of Ministers to occupy the missionary stations that offered themselves, was found to be one of the most serious obstacles in the way of our missionary operations in this State. And while we felt that, in obedience to the blessed Saviour's command, we should "pray to the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth laborers into his harvest;" yet, as in every thing else for which we are directed to pray, consistency requires that our prayers be accompanied by all proper efforts on our part, to obtain by God's blessing what we desire when we pray. Hence during the sitting of the annual Convention in 1834, it was resolved by a meeting, specially called for the purpose, that it is expedient to organize a society for the encouragement and assistance of pious, but indigent young men, in studying for the ministry. A society was then accordingly organized: but this society, though still existing, has been far less generally sustained by the Churches in the State, than was then anticipated; and hence far less efficient and useful than what the exigencies of the Church require, and it is believed, the ability of the Church should sustain. Only seven of the Churches in the State have contributed at all to its funds, and several of these only in a single instance. Three Churches, St. John's and Grace Church, Providence, and St. Michael's Church, Bristol, have each supported a beneficiary of their own.

There are at present six beneficiaries of the society: Mr. Hoppin, sustained by St. John's Church, Providence, who will complete his studies in a few weeks at the General Theological Seminary, New-York, and who will be the first fruits of this society. Mr. George W. Randall, sustained by Grace Church, Providence, who is also at the General Theological Seminary, N. Y. and will finish his studies another year. Mr. Hoppin and Mr. Randall are both graduates of Brown University, and will therefore have gone through with a full collegiate and theological course of studies. Mr. Brown, formerly of Bristol College, now a member of the Sophomore Class, Washington College, and sustained by St. Michael's Church, Bristol; Charles Fisher, preparing for College at the Franklin Academy, Franklin, Mass.; Baylies B. Talbot, preparing for College with the Rev. Mr. Greenleaf, Fall River; and James Malchakey, preparing for College at the Warren Academy, and sustained the past year by St. Mark's Church, Warren, and Zion Church, Newport.

Were there a more general co-operation among the Churches, a much larger number of beneficiaries might be sustained. And unless this be the case, even the small number now sustained, will have to be diminished. The Treasurer reports that the funds now in his hands are insufficient by the sum of — dollars, to meet what is now due to one of these beneficiaries, and that a semi-annual payment will be due to another about the first of September, for which some provision must now be made, or the beneficiary will be most unhappily disappointed and embarrassed.

When it is considered how small is the stipend, only seventy-five dollars per year, that is allowed to beneficiaries, and what inconveniences and embarrassments they must necessarily be subject to from any irregularity in receiving their semi-annual payments, when they fall due, it must be obvious to every one, that it is highly important that the Treasury should be always provided with funds to meet promptly such demands.

Your committee feel that the Education cause is one of the most important and promising means of remedying the evil at present so lamentably felt, in the want of duly qualified Ministers, to supply the waste places,

and extend the borders of our beloved Zion, both at home and abroad. Among those who are brought up in affluence, we have to lament that so few are qualified and still less seem disposed to engage in the arduous, and self-denying duties of the ministry. The Church must look chiefly to those whose piety has been chastened by self-denying poverty, for the supply of her altars, and they must be led forth, invited, encouraged and assisted to prepare themselves for the high and holy office, by the charities of those who have at heart the welfare of Zion.

Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:—

1st. *Resolved*, That the education of pious but indigent young men for the ministry is a department of Christian benevolence highly important to the present and future welfare of the Church, and in the present scarcity of Ministers, the most promising means of remedying the evil by which our missionary operations at home, and of the Church at large, are so seriously embarrassed—and as such, it is a cause that commends itself to the prayers and liberal contributions of all the members and friends of the Church, and should command their zealous co-operation.

2d. *Resolved*, That the subject of the education of pious but indigent young men for the ministry, be committed to a Board of Managers, consisting of three persons, to be elected annually by the Convention, which Board shall appoint their own Treasurer and Secretary, and have authority to manage this department of the Church's benevolence, as their wisdom shall direct, subject, however, to the following restrictions, and in all things to the direction of this Convention.

3d. *Resolved*, That the Board of Education shall make report annually of all their proceedings during the year, to the next annual Convention, naming the monies received during the year, and the Churches and other sources whence received, with the several amounts, as also the names of the beneficiaries, and the amount allowed severally to each.

4th. *Resolved*, That any Church or individual contributing *seventy-five dollars* or more, may nominate the beneficiary to whom the money shall be applied, and direct where he shall pursue his studies.

5th. *Resolved*, That no person shall be received as a beneficiary less than fourteen years of age, and without testimonials of piety and talents, satisfactory to the Board, and no beneficiary shall be allowed more than \$75 per year.

6th. *Resolved*, That the several Churches here represented in Convention pledge themselves to the Board, what sum, if any, they will severally raise in their respective parishes the ensuing year, for the Education cause, payable on the first days of December and June next.

7th. *Resolved*, That a collection be now taken up, to meet the deficiency of the Treasury for the present year.

In behalf of the Committee,

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY.

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## APPENDIX D.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

Upon the subject of Sunday schools, your committee would respectfully report, that, as far as they have been able to obtain information relative to the various schools connected with the Episcopal Church in Rhode-Island, they seem to be in a flourishing condition.

At this season of the year, the schools are, from the operation of a variety of causes, much smaller than at any other. Still by reference to reports, we find in the schools connected with fourteen Churches,\* 1500 scholars,

\*From the other Churches, no reports have been received.

under the charge of 172 female and 92 male teachers. In the libraries attached to thirteen schools, we find 3736 volumes. In two schools, those connected with St. Michael's, Bristol, and Christ's Church, Westerly, there have been six teachers and fifteen scholars hopefully converted to God during the past year. In five other schools, nine teachers and thirteen scholars, making in the seven, fifteen teachers and twenty-eight scholars, who have given good evidences of a new birth. These statistics certainly afford ample premises for the conclusion, that the cause of Sabbath schools, as it is connected with the Episcopal Church of Rhode-Island, has found an abiding place in the warmest affections of God's people, and is receiving a good measure of that attention which it so richly deserves.

It would be a reflection upon the intelligence and piety of this body, did your committee conceive it necessary to utter a syllable in reference to the importance of this institution, in its bearings upon the welfare of individual souls, and of the community at large. Who does not know that the Sabbath school is the nursery of the Church? Who does not know that some of the purest gems now glittering in the Church of Christ in heaven and on earth, were polished in the Sabbath school? Yea, we ask, who does not know these things? Surely we need not urge upon this body the duty of giving this stepping stone to the cross, their watchfulness and prayers.

Your committee would take the liberty of suggesting, especially to the Clergy of this Convention, the adoption of some efficient measures for interesting the children of their schools in the various religious operations of the day. In one school, (we know not but in others,) but in one, at least, the children are encouraged to bring, from Sabbath to Sabbath, their "mites," and deposit them in a close box provided for that purpose. The amount collected in that way is not inconsiderable. Still, when compared with other benefits arising from this plan, the sum given is but a trifle. We all know and feel the truth of that scripture which saith, "Where the treasure is, there will the heart be also." It is believed that under this plan, the children acquire a liberal, indeed a missionary spirit. However, we by no means press *this particular plan*—we only urge the duty of adopting, generally, in our schools, some plan by which the interests and affections of the children may be brought to a focus—something which shall stand in the place of the box just mentioned.

In closing this brief and imperfect report, your committee would beg leave to express their deep conviction, that in all cases where it is possible, the Pastor of a Church should sustain the superintendency of his school. We are aware that in some cases the arduous labors of the Rector will not allow it: but where it is possible, we are convinced that an amount of good, in no other way to be secured, will assuredly result. All which is respectfully submitted.

In behalf of the committee,

JAMES PRATT.

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## APPENDIX E.

### MISSIONARY OPERATIONS.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of missionary operations within this State, have given it some attention, and beg leave to submit the following as their report. The latitude allowed by the language of the motion to appoint your committee, would authorize a survey of missionary doings for more than a century past. But you will not expect us to enter into detail, or to indulge in reflections respecting the progress of the Church at a period so remote. Claiming, however, as we do, the relationship of daughter to the Church of England, we cannot pass on to the special object of your appointment, without first conceding to her the honor



of having introduced and permanently established the Episcopal discipline and worship here. To her, "under God, we are indebted for the first foundation of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and a long continuance of nursing care and protection." In 1699, according to Humphreys, the Episcopalians of Newport, "began to assemble themselves together for the worship of God, after the manner of the Church of England." The first Episcopal Church in Rhode-Island was built there in the year 1702. And through the agency of the oldest missionary society in Protestant Christendom, to wit, the Society for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts, they were supplied in 1704 with the valuable ministrations of the Rev. Mr. Honeyman. Within the period of 19 years from this date, Churches were built and supplied with missionaries in three other places. In 1717, the Rev. Mr. Gay commenced his ministry in the Narragansett country; in 1722, the Rev. Mr. Oxem, at Bristol; and in 1723, the Rev. Mr. Pigot, at Providence. Missionaries were sustained, more or less, in these several churches, by the venerable Society above named, with perhaps one exception, until the war of the revolution. That event was not more calamitous to the immediate prosperity of this section of country, than it was ruinous to the growth of the Church. While it severed the colony from its parent country, it seemed to relax its allegiance to the government of God. We would not say that the ultimate assumption of political independence imparted its influence to the Church, and made her forgetful of the authority of her Divine Head, and his last injunction; for we are aware of the circumstances of extreme depression and difficulty in which she was involved by the removal of missionaries, and the diminution of means for the support of those who remained; but the fact is, that from that memorable era to the year 1815, not a single new congregation was formed.

In the course of that year, by a little missionary labor, the Church at Pawtucket was organized, and by the instrumentality of a few laymen, whose praise is in the Churches, carried into successful operation. From the long-continued, conciliating, yet faithful services of its present Pastor, and the floating character of the population there, bringing successively great numbers within the sound of the gospel, and under the influence of the pure and heavenly spirit of the Liturgy, it probably would not be too much to say, that no Church in the State has done more to remove deep-rooted prejudice, and win the favor of the people towards the peculiarities of our mode of worship, than this.

We now come to another blank page in the missionary history of Rhode-Island. There was, indeed, an attempt made to put in motion the machinery of a State society. Your committee happen to know that a Constitution was prepared with great care, and adopted with great unanimity; and furthermore, that after the organization of the society, directions were given to the Clergy to form auxiliaries in each Church. They also happen to know, that hardly more than one survived the year which gave it existence. To all this we may add, that measures were taken to raise and invest a fund, the interest of which, upon the old-fashioned plan, was to be given for the spread of the gospel. But the fund secured, small at the outset, continued small; and although the little auxiliary referred to, with a creditable zeal and liberality for the times, paid its \$40 per annum, it would be difficult at the present day to trace out the faintest shadows of benefit resulting to any people, or place, or person, from the Rhode-Island State Missionary Society. We cannot speak confidently, not having the records before us, but it is believed that no missionary was ever employed, or other person paid for missionary services, one stiver.

Nine years after the missionary achievement at Pawtucket, a little remarkable for its having been the first which was effected without foreign aid, the Church in Warren was projected, and the work accomplished with a promptitude that astonished every body, but the sanguine, talented



and enterprising Rector of St. Michael's. Its beginning was a presage of its progress. We have seen with admiration the success that has attended the labors of its first and only Pastor.

We now approach a new order of things. Instead of the isolated and fitful efforts of here and there an individual, to enlarge the limits of the Church, we shall see the power of concentrated and uniform action. The credit of bringing it to the test of actual experiment within this State, we believe is chiefly due to the untiring perseverance of a single member of the Convocation; although the measure had been first recommended by a man, whom Rhode-Island is proud to remember as, under God, her own gift to the Church in which he has long and ably discharged the duties of his high office. After great difficulty and delay, after repeated attempts to assemble the Ministers of Christ at Warren, at Taunton and Providence, in March, 1831, something like a Clerical Convocation was held at Pawtucket; something of form and consistency was given to it, chiefly with a view to the improvement of its members, and the revival of religion in the Churches where they might periodically assemble. Their expectations in both these respects were soon more than realized. Their grateful acknowledgments went up to the Giver of all good; and remembering who had led and sustained them through the difficulties ever to be encountered at the commencement of attempts to benefit mankind, they were encouraged to explore, and, if possible, plant the banner of the cross upon the barren wilderness around them. Accordingly, in April, 1833, the Convocation resolved itself, in effect, into a Missionary Society, by the adoption of a Constitution, the second article of which declares its object to be, "to awaken a more lively interest in all the concerns of the Church among the laity; to excite and diffuse a spirit for missionary efforts; to plant new Churches, sustain those that are feeble, and revive those that are languishing;" and each Clergyman pledged one tenth of his salary for the support of missionaries. This we consider as the bright spot in our ecclesiastical history. We have the most undoubting conviction that the hand of God was in this movement. The ladies of the several congregations manifested at once the liveliest interest in the plans and purposes of the Convocation, and resolved themselves to redeem the pledges of their Ministers; and to effect this, they formed sewing circles, whose object was, by the labor of their own hands, to help on the missionary enterprise, not to the limited amount which the Clergy had prescribed to themselves, but to the extent of their ability. From small beginnings, these female associations soon became powerful auxiliaries, and for several years in succession, have placed at the disposal of the Convocation, not less than \$2200. Thus it appears that the present missionary system is identified with the Convocation. It has been conducted, and is at present, under the special direction of the Clergy. They select the stations, procure missionaries, and are responsible for their comfortable support. Their meetings are monthly, at each of which examinations are had respecting the several stations; verbal statements are made by the missionaries; advice is freely given and kindly received, and the whole concern moves on with an energy and efficiency, which could result alone from that union of purpose and concentration of effort, which have hitherto so singularly characterized the Rhode-Island Convocation.

We would here anticipate an objection which might occur, on the ground of an apparent independence of the Bishop in the action of his Clergy, by stating that our venerable Diocesan has not only the honor of originating the Convocation, but, if we mistake not, of suggesting its present mode of operation; that our proceedings have, at least, generally met his entire approbation; that he is with us as often as his convenience will allow; and furthermore, by a law of the Convocation, it is made the duty of the Secretary, at the close of every regular meeting, to make him acquainted with our progress, and with what we have in contemplation. We rejoice to be under his wise and paternal supervision. It relieves us from vast respon-

sibility, and inspires us with confidence in the propriety and salutary tendency of our measures.

The missionaries now in the field, who are wholly or in part sustained by the Convocation, are eight in number. The success which has attended their ministrations the past year, is encouraging, and affords abundant matter for thankfulness to Him, without whose direction and blessing, we labor in vain. Their reports will show how many have been turned to the Lord since the last Convention; and by a reference to previous statements, together with some further inquiry on the subject, we feel authorized to record the fact, and we do it with feelings of profound awe and admiration of the omnipotent grace and goodness of God, that not less than ONE THOUSAND SOULS may trace their conversion to the immediate or remote instrumentality of the Convocation. The reflex influence upon the old Churches, of the efforts put forth to rescue from perdition the thousands around us, who are in danger of dying in their iniquities, it is as impossible fully to estimate, as it is easy to feel, and delightful to acknowledge. Upon this, under God, we very much depend for the life and vigor, and evangelical zeal in our people, obviously so essential to the successful prosecution of the work, which, as we deem it, is but just begun. And in this, connected with the fact that our missionary stations have generally in a short time become sources of pecuniary aid, we see evidence of a cumulative and self-sustaining power, which promises to the Convocation a prosperous perpetuity. Two and perhaps three of the missionaries now in the pay of the Convocation, will probably not require its support after the present year. And two stations, in each of which there is a regularly organized Church, we are sorry to say, are now and have been, one of them at least, more than a year, vacant. The most pressing exigency of the Church in this region, your committee think, regards the want of duly qualified preachers of the gospel. And since the scheme you proposed and advocated, and promised so liberally to patronize, at your last meeting, has utterly failed, we should look around in despair, were it not for the resource to which the Lord of the harvest has directed us to look, when the laborers are few.

With respect to the embarrassment which some may anticipate from the deranged state of the currency and much talked of bankruptcy of the country, your committee can only say, that the Church ought not to despond on this account. The receipts of the Treasurer have at all times exceeded expectations, and been more than adequate to the annual demand. We will not, therefore, indulge the slightest apprehension that what is called the "pressure of the times," which is only another and softer name for the disastrous results of an inordinate cupidity, will diminish our pecuniary strength: on the contrary, we have a right to believe that the obligation to do more for God, and less for ourselves, will be felt more strongly; and that the increase of sensibility to the claims of our Lord, will evince itself in a proportionately larger liberality. Men will feel, we trust, more than ever, that the gold and the silver are his; and that "there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."—Your committee, therefore, see nothing, upon the whole, in the present system of missionary operations, which requires to be altered, however it may be viewed or misapprehended abroad; nothing in "the times" to discourage its friends, and nothing for the Convocation to do, but to be strong in the grace which is in Christ Jesus, to plead his promises, and to implore the continuance of His omnipotent aid, who out of weakness has made them strong, caused them to wax valiant in fight, and turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

In behalf of the Committee,  
N. B. CROCKER.

#### NOTE.

To show at a single view, what a few Churches may do, we submit

the following statement of what, under God, the Church in Pawtucket, together with the two in Providence, St. Mark's, Warren, and St. Michael's, Bristol, have done.

In 1832, they selected Bridgewater, Mass. as their first missionary station. Since that time, a new Church has been built, which cost \$4000, a Minister has been settled, and is supported by the parish.

1833. St. James's, Woonsocket, R. I. Church built, cost \$4000, Minister settled, supported by parish, until the recent embarrassment of the manufacturers.

1834. Zion Church, Newport, do. \$17,000, do. now supported by parish.

St. Luke's, East-Greenwich, do. \$4000. do. do. in part do.

St. Paul's, Portsmouth, do. \$3000, do. do. in part do.

Christ's Church, Lonsdale, do. \$6000, do. do. by parish.

Emmanuel Ch. Manville, large school-house given for worship, do. do.

Christ's Church, Westerly, Church built, \$6000, do. do.

In this town a parsonage has also been built, which cost \$2000.

St. Peter's, Kingston, no Church, and at present no Minister.

St. Luke's, Tower Hill, an old station with Church, a parsonage built, Minister settled, and in part supported by parish.

1837. St. Matthew's, Jamestown, Church purchased of Baptists, missionary supported by Convocation.

1837. Church of Nativity, Chepachet, no Church, missionary supported by Convocation.

1837. Church of Ascension, Fall River, Mass. no Church, missionary supported conjointly and equally by Massachusetts and Rhode-Island Convocations. This promising station was first adopted and public worship sustained there for four months by the Rhode-Island Convocation.

## APPENDIX F.

Your Committee of Finance would report, that it will be necessary to raise the sum of \$100, for the current expenses of the Convention for the present year, which amount they recommend should be assessed among the several Churches composing this Convention, agreeably to the following list, being the rate of one per cent. on the salaries paid to the respective Ministers.

|                                    |   |   |   |   |      |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|------|
| Trinity Church, Newport,           | - | - | - | - | \$10 |
| Zion " "                           | - | - | - | - | 10   |
| St. Paul's, " Portsmouth,          | - | - | - | - | 5    |
| St. Michael's, Bristol,            | - | - | - | - | 8    |
| St. Mark's, " Warren,              | - | - | - | - | 7    |
| St. John's, " Providence,          | - | - | - | - | 12   |
| Grace Church, " "                  | - | - | - | - | 12   |
| St. Paul's " Pawtucket,            | - | - | - | - | 6    |
| Christ Church, Lonsdale,           | - | - | - | - | 6    |
| Emmanuel " Manville,               | - | - | - | - | 3    |
| St. James's, " Woonsocket,         | - | - | - | - | 5    |
| Church of the Nativity, Chepachet, | - | - | - | - | 3    |
| St. Luke's, " East-Greenwich,      | - | - | - | - | 5    |
| St. Paul's, " Wickford,            | - | - | - | - | 3    |
| St. Luke's, " Tower Hill,          | - | - | - | - | 5    |
| Christ Church, Westerly,           | - | - | - | - | 5    |

The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz. that the delegates of the several Churches now pay to the Treasurer their several apportionments.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY,  
ALEXANDER JONES,  
S. T. NORTHAM.

## APPENDIX G.

*Abstract of the Report of the Standing Committee of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Rhode-Island, Benjamin Cowell, Secretary.*

Admitted during the past year, Candidates for Holy Orders:—

WILLIAM ROBINSON BABCOCK,  
FREDERICK BIRD WOODWARD.

Recommended for the office of Deacon:—

LOUIS JANSEN,  
EDWARD WAYLEN,  
WASHINGTON VAN ZANDT.

Recommended for the office of Priest:—

REV. ALEXANDER H. VINTON,  
“ LOUIS JANSEN,  
“ WILLIAM H. PURVIANCE,  
“ ERASTUS D'WOLF.

June 13, 1837.

# JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

FORTY-EIGHTH

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OF THE

STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND,

HELD IN

CHRIST CHURCH, WESTERLY, ON TUESDAY, JUNE 12,  
AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, A. D. 1838;

Together with the Proceedings

OF A

SPECIAL CONVENTION,

HELD IN

GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE, AUGUST 15, 1838.

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PROVIDENCE:

H. H. Brown.....25 Market Square.

1838.





## LIST OF CLERGY IN RHODE-ISLAND.

- Rev. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.
- Rev. LEMUEL BURGE, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Kingstown.
- Rev. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.
- Rev. ERASTUS D'WOLF, Rector of St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill.
- Rev. JOHN P. FENNER, residing in Rhode-Island.
- Rev. ——— HICKOX, Deacon, Minister of St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.
- Rev. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren.
- Rev. LOUIS JANSEN, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Kingston.
- Rev. SYLVESTER NASH, Rector of St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich.
- Rev. JAMES PRATT, Rector of Christ Church, Westerly.
- Rev. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence.
- Rev. ALEXANDER H. VINTON, Rector of Grace Church, Providence.
- Rev. WASHINGTON VAN ZANDT, Rector of Christ Church, Lonsdale.
- Rev. HENRY WATERMAN, Rector of St. James's Church, Woonsocket.
- Rev. JOHN WEST, Rector of Zion Church, Newport.
- Rev. SALMON WHEATON, D. D. Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

## LIST OF LAY DELEGATES,

*Certificates of whose election by their respective Churches,  
were presented and approved.*

PROVIDENCE.—*St. John's Church.* Austin Gurney, Wm. G. Goddard, Alexander Jones.

*Grace Church.* George S. Wardwell.

PORTSMOUTH.—*St. Paul's Church.* John Burrington, Bateman Monroe, jr.

BRISTOL.—*St. Michael's Church.* George Pearce, John G. Harding, Benjamin Hall, Billings Waldron.

WARREN.—*St. Mark's Church.* Nathan M. Wheaton.

NORTH PROVIDENCE.—*St. Paul's Church.* Gideon L. Spencer.

LONSDALE.—*Christ Church.* Jeremiah Whipple, Jesse Whiting.

WESTERLY.—*Christ Church.* Lynden Taylor, Edward W. Babcock, George D. Cross, Rowse Babcock, jr.

EAST GREENWICH.—*St. Luke's Church.* Kingsley Bullock, Lucius M. Wheeler, Emery Fiske.

NORTH KINGSTOWN.—*St. Paul's Church.* Gideon Freeborn, Benoni P. Bates, Wm. A. Shaw, Allen M. Thomas.

TOWER HILL.—*St. Luke's Church.* Stephen Browning, jr. John Robinson.

KINGSTON.—*St. Peter's Church.* George W. Champlin, Job W. Watson, Wilkins Updike.

NOTE.—Manville, Woonsocket, Jamestown, and Chepachet, unrepresented.

# JOURNAL.

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CHRIST CHURCH, WESTERLY, JUNE 12, 1838.

This being the day appointed by the **Constitution**, for the annual meeting of this Convention, it accordingly assembled in the body of the Church. The Rev. N. B. Crocker, President of the last Convention, took the chair. The Secretary being absent, the Rev. Francis Peck was chosen Secretary, *pro tem*. Upon calling the roll, the following gentlemen appeared and took their seats, viz:—Rev. Lemuel Burge, N. B. Crocker, D. D., Erastus D'Wolf, John P. Fenner, George W. Hathaway, Louis Jansen, Francis Peck, George Taft, Alexander H. Vinton, James Pratt, Washington Van Zandt, of the Clergy.

The Lay Delegates then presented their testimonials, and the following named Churches were found canonically represented, viz.—St. Paul's Church, North Kingstown, Gideon Freeborn, Benoni P. Bates, Wm. A. Shaw, Allen M. Thomas; St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill, Stephen Browning, jr., John Robinson; St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich, Kingsley Bullock, Lucius M. Wheeler, Emery Fiske; St. John's Church, Providence, Austin Gurney, William G. Goddard, Alexander Jones; Christ Church, Westerly, Lynden Taylor, Edward W. Babcock, George D. Cross, Rowse Babcock, jr.; St. Paul's Church, North Providence, Gideon L. Spencer; St. Mark's Church, Warren, Nathan M. Wheaton; Christ Church, Lonsdale, Jeremiah Whipple, Jesse Whiting; St. Michael's Church, Bristol, George Pearce, John G. Harding, Benjamin Hall, Billings Waldron; St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, John Burrington, Bateman Munroe, jr.; Grace Church, Providence, George W. Wardwell; St. Peter's Church, Kingston, George W. Champlin, Job W. Watson, and Wilkins Updike.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of a President, by ballot, when the Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. was unanimously elected. The Rev. Washington Van Zandt was chosen Secretary.

The rules of order for the last session of this Convention were read and adopted as the rules of this Convention.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to nominate the standing committees of this Convention, to consist of three Clergymen and three Lay-



men, to be nominated by the President. Adjourned to meet immediately after Divine service.

Morning prayer was read by the Rev. Mr. Jansen, the lessons and ante-communion service by the Rev. Mr. Van Zandt, and the sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Peck. The holy communion was administered by the Rev. Mr. Pratt, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Peck.

The Convention came to order pursuant to adjournment. The President reported the following gentlemen as a Committee of nomination:—Rev. George Taft, James Pratt, and Messrs. Wm. G. Goddard, Nathan M. Wheaton, and Benjamin Hall.

Adjourned to half past 2 o'clock.

At half past 2 o'clock, P. M. the Convention met according to adjournment. After calling the roll, it was

*Voted*, That the reading of the Parochial Reports be the first business for to-morrow morning. The Committee of nominations, reported—Report accepted and the following Committees chosen :—

*Unfinished Business*—Rev. James Pratt, Messrs. R. Babcock, jr. G. L. Spencer.

*Finances*—Rev. G. W. Hathaway, Messrs. Alexander Jones, George S. Wardwell.

*Education*—Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., Messrs. Wm. G. Goddard, Geo. S. Wardwell.

*Missionary operations within the State*—Rev. John West, John Bristed, and N. M. Wheaton, Esq.

*To revise Parochial Reports*—Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., A. H. Vinton, and Wm. G. Goddard, Esq.

*Voted*, That at 4 o'clock the Convention enter into the election of Delegates to the General Convention, standing committee, Treasurer, &c.

A circular from the Bishop was read, concerning the election of an assistant Bishop for Massachusetts, which was referred to a committee, consisting of Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., A. H. Vinton, George W. Hathaway, and Messrs. Wm. G. Goddard, and Benjamin Hall.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock.

4 o'clock, P. M. Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the canon of 1836, requiring the number of the standing committee to be eight, be and it is hereby repealed.

*Voted*, That the first canon of 1835, requiring the number to be six, be and it is hereby revived.

According to a previous vote the Convention proceeded to the election of the usual officers for the ensuing year, by ballot :—

*Standing Committee*—Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., George Taft, A. H. Vinton. Messrs. George Mumford, Benjamin Cowell, and Resolved Waterman.

*Delegates to General Convention*—Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., A. H. Vinton, G. W. Hathaway, James Pratt. Messrs. Wm. G. Goddard, Benjamin Hall, Wm. R. Babcock, Alexander Jones.

*Trustees of General Theological Seminary*—Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., A. H. Vinton, George Taft.

*Treasurer*—Alexander Jones, Esq.

*Voted*, That the account of the late Secretary of this Convention be and the same is hereby allowed.

Dr. Lucius M. Wheeler, delegate from St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich, Allen M. Thomas, delegate from St. Paul's Church, Wickford, the Rev. Lemuel Burge, and George W. Champlin, delegate from St. Peter's Church, Kingston, were severally excused from their attendance.

*Voted*, That the next Annual Convention be holden at St. John's Church, Providence.

A communication from Dr. Anthon, late Secretary of the General Convention, concerning the quota due from Rhode-Island, to said Convention, was referred to the Finance Committee.

*Also*, a letter from the Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold, to an individual of this Convention, was read and referred to the Committee on the Bishop's circular.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

— WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1838.

After prayers by the Rev. Mr. Fenner, the Convention came to order.—The roll having been called, the Parochial Reports were read, in accordance with a vote of yesterday, and were referred to the Committee of revision. (See Appendix A.)

The Committee appointed at the last Convention as a Board to superintend the Sabbath school operations within this State, were excused from reporting.

*Voted*, That the same gentlemen be a Board to superintend the Sabbath school operations in the State.

The Committee on "Unfinished business," reported as follows:—

"The Committee on unfinished business beg leave to report, that they find nothing requiring the action of the Convention, except the resolutions proposed by the General Convention, recorded in appendix A. of our last journal.

For and in behalf of the Committee,

JAMES PRATT.

A Committee of three was appointed on the proposed alterations of the Constitution, recommended by the house of Bishops, consisting of Rev. G. W. Hathaway, James Pratt, and William G. Goddard, Esq.

Finance Committee reported; accepted, and adopted. (See Appendix B.) The same Committee recommended the following resolutions, viz:—

*Resolved*, That the Delegates from the several Churches now pay to the Treasurer their several assessments.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer be directed to pay to the General Convention the sum of \$56, the amount due them.

The Treasurer reported; accepted. (See Appendix C.)

The Committee on Education reported; accepted. (See Appendix D.)

The following gentlemen were elected a Board of Theological Education for the year ensuing, viz:—Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., George W. Hathaway, and Wm. G. Goddard, Esq.

The Treasurer of the Board of Education made the following report, which was accepted. (See Appendix E.)

*Voted*, That the Rev. Mr. Jansen preach the next Convention sermon; the Rev. Henry Waterman, his substitute.

John Robinson, delegate from St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill, and George Pearce, delegate from St. Michael's Church, Bristol, were excused from attendance.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

2 o'clock, P. M., the Convention met pursuant to adjournment. The roll having been called, it was

*Resolved*, That the publishing Committee be instructed in the insertion of the report from Manville, to take notice of the present severe sickness of the Rector of the Church, and to express the sympathy of this body in his present illness and affliction.

The Committee on the Bishop's printed Circular and written communication, reported; accepted. (See Appendix F.)

*It was moved and seconded*, That the whole subject of separation be indefinitely postponed—negatived.

Rev. Mr. Vinton offered an amendment to the resolutions proposed by the Committee—withdrawn.

The question was now on the original resolutions—shall they pass?—The question being taken by orders, the following result was obtained.

Of the Clergy—Ayes 7—Noes 3—Of the Laity—Ayes 9—Noes 4. So they passed.

*Voted*, That a Committee of two be appointed to carry the resolutions into effect. Rev. N. B. Crocker and G. W. Hathaway were appointed.

*Voted*, That the Delegation be instructed to make application to the General Convention, in order to complete the object of the resolutions.

*Voted*, That the Academy at Westerly be recommended to the patronage of Episcopalians in this State.

*Voted*, That the Constitution, canons, and rules of order, be reprinted on the journal of the present Convention. (See Appendix G.)

*Voted*, That the following gentlemen be the Committee of publication: Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., Alexander H. Vinton, W. Van Zandt, and Messrs. Wm. G. Goddard, J. H. Carpenter.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the citizens of Westerly, for their hospitality to its members during the present session.

After the benediction by the President, the Convention adjourned, "*sine die.*" A true record—Attest,

WASHINGTON VAN ZANDT, *Secretary.*

## APPENDIX A.

### CHRIST CHURCH, WESTERLY.

During the past year, the goodness and mercy of Almighty God has been continued—nay increased and multiplied upon this people—who in times past have been so richly blest with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus. A greater number have been added to the "sacramental host," than in any former year; and although we now mourn a general coldness in the church, we trust all our members have grown in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We cannot forbear to mention in this connexion, what we believe to have been highly instrumental through the blessing of God, in producing and continuing this happy state of things—we mean the perfect harmony and love which from the first day of its existence has distinguished this parish. "No root of bitterness has sprung up among us to trouble us." Never have we known a single instance of discord or ill feeling among the members of either church or congregation.

Since our last report, God has visited us with his special blessing, and in this community, many have been converted, as we trust, from nature's darkness to God's marvellous light. On one occasion, it was our privilege to admit eighteen persons to the Lord's table.

By the annexed table, it will be seen that our Sabbath school has somewhat increased in numbers during the year, and then it may be mentioned as an interesting fact, that from the Sabbath school have been gathered into the fold of Christ, at various times within the three years and a half since our organization, *twenty-four* of the older scholars. About ten dollars have been raised the last year in the school, and appropriated to Africa.

The ladies' sewing circle has continued its valuable efforts with commendable industry. Eighty-five dollars have been paid into the funds of the Convocation.

The Tract Society intermits not its quiet efforts. Every month it scatters two hundred and fifty messages of love and mercy.

Our services are—preaching twice on the Sabbath, and in the evening Divine service in the Lecture room. The first Monday in each month is observed in prayerful concert with the Christian world, for the Divine blessing upon the cause of missions. Tuesday afternoon is set apart for the meeting of the ladies' sewing circle. On Wednesday evening a conference meeting is held in the Lecture room. On Thursday evening, the



Bible class meets at the Parsonage, in connexion with the Teachers' meeting; and Friday evening is devoted to the ladies' praying circle.

Three young men from this parish are now pursuing their studies with a view to the ministry; one in the General Theological Seminary, and the other two in the Westerly Academy.

The records of the Church present the following facts:—

Adult baptisms, 22; communicants added, 34; removed, 1; present number, 115; confirmed, 29; S. scholars, 118; average attendance, 90; female teachers, 9; male teachers, 8; marriages, 4; burials, 13

JAMES PRATT, RECTOR.

### ST. PETER'S CHURCH, KINGSTON.

The very favorable auspices under which this parish was organized, justified its friends in their sanguine expectations of its speedy prosperity; but for causes over which they had no control, such, as yet, have not been realized. For two years past, they have been destitute of a Pastor; and as a natural consequence of such destitution, many who were originally the friends of the Church, have incorporated themselves with other denominations; and those who reside some distance from the village, being now supplied with means of grace in their own neighborhoods, feel neither necessity nor inclination to attend our services. The population of the village itself is small, which divided between two denominations, reduces our congregation to the average of forty adults, exclusive of children—and under existing circumstances, this is as large as can be expected, unless it should please Him who is the source of light and power, to turn the current of faith and feeling, once again toward us. Its communicants are twenty-three. Their stability and zeal during their pastoral destitution, furnish the demonstration of their attachment to the Church; and from their present piety, is argued the hope of its endurance and enlargement. The labors of its present minister commenced in April last, since which a Sabbath school has been organized, numbering scholars, 45; teachers, 10. Of a library, it is destitute, but efforts are being made that one may be possessed. More recently a Bible class has been formed, and as these two institutions, when properly conducted, are fruitful sources of power to a Church, they are looked to by the writer, as furnishing a field both for usefulness and enjoyment. We worship still in the Court-House, but as it is neither convenient nor proper that we should do so much longer, it has become necessary to turn our attention to the subject of erecting a house for ourselves. The fewness of our numbers enfeebles our resources. It will therefore be utterly impossible for us to succeed in so doing, without help from abroad, and as we aim only at comfort and convenience, putting away from us costliness and splendor, we hope the humility of our desires will give power to our appeal.

LOUIS JANSEN, MINISTER.



## TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT.

Baptisms, adults, 4 ; children, 16 ; total, 20 ; marriages, 6 ; funerals, 16 ; communicants added, 12 ; died, 3 ; removed, 6 ; present number, 130.

The condition of the Sunday school does not vary much from the last year, except that the number of teachers has been a little increased, and some volumes have been added to the library.

The services of this church have been better attended the past year, and the congregation is somewhat larger than it has been for several preceding years.

S. WHEATON, Rector.

Newport, June 11th, 1838.

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH.

The records of this Church present, baptism, 1, infant ; marriages, 3 ; funerals, 4 ; communicants added, 3 ; deceased, 3 ; removed, 2 ; present number, 23 ; S. S. teachers, 5 ; scholars, 20 to 25 ; library, volumes 100 to 150.

The usual services of the Church have been performed, and there have been lectures at private houses during the week. The addition to the holy communion has been small, but the deportment of the congregation on the Sabbath, has been more solemn and serious than on any former year. There are four persons to be confirmed. The Sunday school has received due attention from the Rector, and has been his most encouraging field of labor. The principal source of hope for the future spiritual prosperity of the Church, arises from the consideration that the young are growing up under S. school instruction ; and will thus acquire, and as they come forward into active life, infuse into the community around, an enlightened and purified moral sense.

Ten copies of "the Christian Witness," have again been gratuitously circulated during the last year.

On resigning his charge at the close of five years labor in the parish, there are one or two topics to which the founder and Rector would invite attention.

As was reported to the Convention of 1834, several hundred dollars were collected abroad, "to be vested in pews, the pews to be rented, and the proceeds appropriated towards the support of the resident minister."—Sixteen pews have accordingly, by order of the corporation, been sold to the trust, and the rents have been duly applied, but *the deeds need legal execution.*

From the founding of this Church in July, 1833, until July, 1837, the parish had received from the R. I. Church Convocation, towards the support of its minister, fourteen hundred and fifty-six dollars and forty cents ; having itself contributed for that object, during the same period, (including the rents of the pews before named) four hundred and forty-three dollars

and sixty cents. The actual contribution from the parish, for the present year is not yet known, it being made at the close of the year, 7th July.—A statement for 1837–8, similar to the preceding, cannot therefore now be presented. From various causes, the views and feelings of a considerable portion of the community are adverse to the pecuniary support of the Gospel. Indeed this presents one of the most unpromising indications with respect to the future prosperity of the Church. However impolitic, (had merely personal considerations been permitted to govern) to inculcate on the parish the duty of contributing more liberally towards supporting their own minister, the Rector has nevertheless, as the missionary of the R. I. Church Convocation, felt it incumbent on him so to do. Nor will such a course on the part of the parish, less promote its own real welfare, than it will be just towards the contributors of the funds at the disposal of the R. I. C. Convocation. In fact were *all* to contribute on a moderate estimate, in the proportion of their means, the pecuniary resources of the parish would be adequate to its support, without foreign aid.

JOHN P. FENNER, RECTOR.

June 12th, 1838.

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### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BRISTOL.

The serious impressions of last year, have never during the present season, been altogether effaced. For some months past, the religious feeling and spiritual growth of the parish have been, and are now very encouraging. In the preceding year, fourteen adults and six infants have been baptized; eleven marriages and eleven burials have occurred; eleven persons have been confirmed; twenty-three communicants have been added; two have died, and five have left the place; the whole number is two hundred and eighty-two. The religious services of the parish are, on the Lord's day, prayers and preaching twice in the Church, a prayer meeting in the morning, prayers and lecture in the evening in the lecture room. Monday evenings are occupied in monthly concerts of prayer for missions, Sunday schools, seamen, and other objects of Christian benevolence. On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings, conference meetings are holden. On Wednesday evening, the Female Mission Society meets. On Friday evening the Sunday school teachers' meeting, and on Saturday afternoon, the Rev. Francis Peck holds a Bible class in the lecture room. Pastoral visits are made by both the resident clergymen.—The Female Missionary Society has raised one hundred and eighty dollars for the Convocation. Our Education Society continues to sustain a beneficiary at Hartford, and our parish has during the year, contributed nearly five hundred dollars for religious objects. Our Maternal Association and the Sunday morning prayer meetings, are well kept up, and continue to draw down the best blessings upon the people. The Rev. F

Peck will report, in relation to the Sunday school, Bible class, and other labors of love, in which he has been engaged.

JOHN BRISTED, Rector.

*Bristol, June 12th, 1838.*

#### REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT MINISTER.

Beside a participation in the regular services of the sanctuary, and in pastoral visiting, the superintendence of the Sabbath school, and the conducting of a Bible class, have fallen under my more immediate care.

The present state of the former might be nearly described by employing the language used in my report of the last year. Engaged in our Sabbath school, we have twenty-six female and ten male instructors.—One hundred and twenty are enrolled upon our list of females, of whom one hundred and one are in regular attendance. There are ninety-two scholars in the male department and eighty-one are punctually at their post. During the year, three have given evidence of piety, and within the same period, two of our male and three of our female teachers, we trust, have been “born again.” The number of volumes in the library is about four hundred. Teachers’ meetings are holden weekly, to which I give my attendance and aid.

The Bible class during the inclemency of winter, considerably diminished, but has again opened an encouraging aspect. Its influence has been by no means inconsiderable in laying a hardy foundation for a deep principled and intelligent piety. And now, when about to enter another field of labor, there are few departments of my study, which I can look back upon as giving me more pleasure in the discharge, or presenting brighter promise of prospective good.

FRANCIS PECK, ASSISTANT MINISTER.

#### ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN.

Baptisms, 3 adults, 8 infants, total 11; burials, 18; marriage, 1; communicants died, 4; removed, 1; added, 4; present number, 114.

The only change in the parish worthy of notice, is the introduction of the system of weekly offerings, in the place of other collections and contributions. With what success, sufficient time has not elapsed to enable us to judge.

We mention as an interesting fact, that four young gentlemen, communicants in this parish, are in different stages of preparation for the ministry of the Church; one of which will finish his studies in a few weeks at the General Theological Seminary, New-York.

Our Sunday school consists of one hundred and fifty scholars and twenty teachers. Our school is flourishing.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector.

## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

Since our last State Convention, I have baptized thirty-two—infants, fifteen, adults, seventeen; admitted to communion, twenty; whole number about one hundred and ninety; married, six; twenty-seven have been confirmed. Our Sunday scholars are in numbers, two hundred and forty-eight. Persons engaged in their instruction, thirty-one. Several have been converted through their instrumentality, and joined the communion. Contributions for religious purposes about the same as last year. The Church has seldom been in a more prosperous condition.

N. B. CROCKER, RECTOR.

## GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

The last annual report from this parish exhibited a depression of its affairs, which was relieved, however, by a few tokens of promise. These became more decided and the promise was fruitful, and the hope of last year has ripened into the gratitude of this. With its advance in age, the parish has naturally grown into greater compactness and strength.

There has been a more vigorous combination of religious effort, and results have been wrought with an ease and a certainty, which show a healthy tone of religious character. During the past year, this Church has contributed to different objects of benevolence, twelve hundred dollars.

This sum outgoes by three hundred dollars, the contributions of any former year, and is more by five hundred dollars, than the donations reported to the last Convention; and although it certainly does not equal the ability of our Church, yet as a mark of growth and of increasing zeal for the common cause, the result is cheering. Of these contributions, three hundred and fifty dollars have been given to the General Board of Missions and divided equally between the domestic and foreign committees. Three hundred and forty dollars have been contributed by the ladies' sewing circle, for missions within the State. The rest has been appropriated to other objects of benevolence.

There are connected with or sustained by this Church, four Sunday schools. One of these is in the South part of our city, and numbers about eighty scholars. The teachers are all of them communicants of Grace Church. Another is in Johnston, six miles from town. The schools hold their sessions in the Lecture room of Grace Church. One of these is a school for adult colored persons.

The attendance at all the schools has been quite full, and at those immediately connected with this Church, more full than for several years past. They have both contributed generously to the missionary cause.—The teachers' meetings continue to be well attended, and serve, I believe, as a bond of union, and a source of interest in the Sunday school cause, as well as a source of religious profit. The average number of the ladies'



Bible class has been between sixty and seventy. Its exercises have been signally blest.

The monthly missionary meetings have drawn a larger attendance this year, than ever before, and the whole subject of the missionary enterprise seems to have strongly commended itself to the affections of very many in the Church.

There is scope enough however, for the wider extension of this interest abroad in the congregation, and room perhaps for its deeper entrance into the hearts which it already warms.

This cause should grasp the conscience as well as the sympathies.—Missionary zeal ought to have the fixedness of principle as well as the ardor of impulse.

We have lately introduced the plan of systematic contributions, and by several families it has been faithfully prosecuted.

Perhaps the most agreeable feature in the condition of this Church, is the circumstance that it has nine or ten young men in progress of training for the ministry. One of these is a beneficiary, and a new scholarship of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, has just been founded for a new incumbent.

In addition to these facts, which I love to look upon as the tokens of a growing piety in our Church, I would mention as a reason for thanksgiving, that our communion has been enlarged during the year, by the accession of forty-one new members.

I subjoin a tabular view of our affairs since June, 1837 :—

Added to communion, 41 ; confirmed, 47 ; baptized, of adults, 22 ; of infants, 16 ; married, 6 ; buried, 8 ; Sunday school average attendance, 120 ; Sunday school for colored adults, 80.

ALEXANDER H. VINTON, RECTOR.

### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PAWTUCKET.

The Head of the Church has continued to smile upon the parish of St. Paul's, during the last conventional year. Several persons have been added to the Church, a number more are candidates for baptism, and a general seriousness pervades the congregation, from which the most happy results are anticipated. The congregation has been regularly increasing, and is now larger than it has been at any former period. In addition to three services on the Lord's day and one on Wednesday evening, the fasts and festivals of the Church, not falling on the Sabbath, and the saints' days have been observed. These services have all been well attended and greatly blessed.

The Education Society has considerably more than redeemed the pledge given to the last Convention.



The missionary spirit and effort have been greater than on any preceding year.

Meetings for prayer and praise, reading the scriptures and books of devotion and practical religion, and pious conference continue to be held by the female members of the Church, for mutual spiritual improvement and advancement in holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

The Sunday school is prospering under a divine blessing upon the labors of a devoted superintendent, and a band of pious, well-qualified teachers.

It is with profound gratitude to God, that I would speak of renovations of heart by the Holy Spirit, in the Sunday school.

The Church edifice has undergone and is undergoing important repairs and improvements.

From the above statement, together with the statistics subjoined, may be formed a pretty correct idea of the present condition of St. Paul's Church. Communicants, 184; funerals, 5; marriages, 13; baptisms, 14; Sabbath school scholars, 180; volumes in Sunday school library, 400.

GEORGE TAFT, RECTOR.

*North Providence, June 14th, 1833.*

### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WICKFORD:

Since our last annual meeting, one family has been added to the number last reported, as belonging to my Church, and although no removals have taken place, we now number only seventeen Episcopal families.

Two adult persons have been baptized; three have joined in communion; and four have received confirmation.

Our Sunday school record gives sixty-two names. Forty is the average number in attendance. Thirteen teachers, male and female, with cheerfulness and a well-tempered zeal, devote themselves, their time and talents, to this noble work of God. The library of said school contains one hundred and sixty-eight volumes.

The ladies' sewing circle, by much labor and an increased zeal in the good cause in which they are engaged, have been enabled to cancel the debt of \$115, which originated in the purchase of the organ, having paid the past year the balance of \$65, and have now in the treasury for missionary and other purposes, sixteen dollars.

LEMUEL BURGE, RECTOR.

*June 12th, 1833.*

### CHRIST CHURCH, LONSDALE.

It is under a thankful sense of divine goodness, that the minister of this Church makes his yearly report to the Convention. From many circum-

stances, the parish has labored under serious disadvantages, but by the blessing of God, it has recovered in a great degree its temporal as well as spiritual health.

Our Conventional reports oftener show the bright side of the picture, (which undoubtedly is more cheering to the Pastor's heart) than the dark side. I presume all desire to exhibit the fair and finished proportions of their work; but truth must be told here, as elsewhere. One great obstacle in the way of our prosperity, is the lukewarmness of those who can and ought to afford the most efficient aid. There is a vast disproportion between male and female admissions to the communion, four only of the former. Hence the lifelessness of our body, for it cannot be expected that men will exert themselves in religious concerns, or make sacrifices for the general good, unless they are renewed in the spirit of their minds, and changed from a state of nature to a state of grace. For this great end, I have, I trust, faithfully labored, but alas as yet without success. We cannot to be sure complain of this as an isolated fact, but a universal impediment, from which few or none are exempt. Notwithstanding this discouragement, there is a seriousness in the parish generally, which betokens a future ingathering. I wait the day of the Lord. He will send the increase, according to his own gracious promise, in fitting season. May he guide us by his unerring wisdom, and cause the labors of another year, (should the life of his present ministering servant be spared) to increase and multiply, so that the fair field of this portion of his vineyard, may bud and blossom as the rose.

The regular services are three on Sunday, and a meeting of the Bible class, containing about forty members, on Saturday evening. We have no other regular service during the week, arising from various reasons, unnecessary to mention to those who know any thing of manufacturing villages. We have also two female circles of prayer, to which I sincerely believe, under God, we are indebted for the present prosperity of the Church. Were these discontinued, or should the members relax their efforts and hinder prayer, I should indeed despair of ever producing an effect upon the hearts and consciences of sinners. The more experience I have, the more am I convinced, that a praying people make a flourishing Church—not only in a spiritual, but temporal point. Take away the prayer circle, and you remove the vital principle which invigorates the whole body.

The ladies' sewing society is in a flourishing condition, and has contributed to the funds of the Convocation, fifty-five dollars and fifty cents. The Education Society has redeemed the pledge of last year.

The monthly missionary concert is held on the first Monday of every month, and we shall have contributed to the funds of the society, about thirty dollars. The Church has contributed towards different objects the present year, nearly six hundred dollars. There are now only twenty-three pews unoccupied, out of eighty-eight. Eighteen copies of the Witness are taken in the parish.

The register shows the following list of baptisms, marriages, funerals, &c. :—

Baptisms, adults, 9 ; infants, 10 ; total 19 ; confirmed, 11 ; marriages, 2 ; funerals, 11 ; (4 only belonging to the congregation ; ) number of communicants when I took charge of the parish, forty-six ; added, 14 ; died, 8 ; present number, 52. Of these, eight have removed, but still hold connexion with this Church. Pastoral visitation, six hundred and seventy-three. Sunday school scholars, 90 ; average attendance, 70 ; teachers, 13 ; library contains 270 volumes.

WASHINGTON VAN ZANDT, RECTOR.

*Lonsdale, June 12th, 1838.*

### ZION CHURCH, NEWPORT.

The Rector of Zion Church, Newport, reports to this Convention the following statement :—

Baptisms, infant, 19 ; confirmations, 4 ; marriages, 6 ; burials, 10 ; Sunday school teachers and scholars, 233 ; bound volumes in libraries, 588 ; missionary contributions—State, \$160 ; general missionary contributions, \$120.

The weekly services in this parish, are, besides the two regular services on Sunday, a lecture either on a week-day or Sunday evening ; a prayer meeting ; a meeting of the Sunday school teachers ; a Bible class ; ladies' convocation society, and monthly missionary meeting. The missionary contributions during the past year have much exceeded former ones. The interest in foreign missions has been manifestly advancing since a meeting held by appointment of the General Agent, last summer, at which addresses were made by himself, and two members of the Executive Committee. The Sunday school has increased in prosperity, and is furnishing us with new proofs of the blessed influences of early religious instruction. The number of confirmations in this parish will be seen to be smaller than usual. We have had no regular visit this year from the Bishop, for this purpose. The few who were confirmed, received the rite at a casual visit nearly a year ago. The number of burials is much larger than common ; but half of them were of persons out of the parish. The general prosperity of this parish is greater than ever ; the number of families and regular attendants on public worship having much increased during this year ; yet much cannot be said in commendation of its spiritual improvement. The spirit of the age, it is to be feared, is insinuating itself into the Church ; and if there was ever a time when ministers and Christians should sit loose from the world, and exhibit a firm, consistent and fearless example of fidelity to Jesus Christ, that time is the present. We are to expect no favor from the world, and we ought to make no compromise with it.

JOHN WEST, RECTOR.

## APPENDIX B.

Your Committee of Finance report that the balance in the Treasury is about \$6. Due from Christ Church, Lonsdale, \$17 25, (since paid ;) from St. James' Church, Woonsocket, \$5, this sum included. They also report that it will be necessary to raise the sum of \$100, for the purpose of paying the amount due the General Convention, and the current expenses of this Convention for the ensuing year, which amount they recommend should be assessed among the several Churches, as follows :—

|                               |   |   |   |      |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|------|
| Trinity Church, Newport,      | - | - | - | \$10 |
| Zion " "                      | - | - | - | 10   |
| St. Paul's " Portsmouth,      | - | - | - | 3    |
| St. Michael's, Bristol,       | - | - | - | 8    |
| St. Mark's " Warren,          | - | - | - | 7    |
| St. John's " Providence,      | - | - | - | 12   |
| Grace Church, " "             | - | - | - | 12   |
| St. Paul's " Pawtucket,       | - | - | - | 6    |
| Christ Church, Lonsdale,      | - | - | - | 5    |
| Emmanuel, " Manville,         | - | - | - | 3    |
| St. James's " Woonsocket,     | - | - | - | 5    |
| St. Luke's " East Greenwich,  | - | - | - | 5    |
| St. Paul's " Wickford,        | - | - | - | 3    |
| St. Luke's " Tower Hill,      | - | - | - | 3    |
| Christ Church, Westerly,      | - | - | - | 5    |
| St. Peter's " North Kingtown, | - | - | - | 3    |

The Committee recommend the following resolutions:—

*Resolved*, That the Delegates from the several Churches now pay the Treasurer their several assessments.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer be directed to pay to the General Convention the sum of \$56, being the amount due them.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY;  
ALEXANDER JONES,  
GEORGE S. WARDWELL.

## APPENDIX C.

Dr. *Rhode-Island Episcopal Convention in account with*ALEXANDER JONES, *Treasurer.*

Cr.

| 1837.   | \$ C.    | 1837.  | \$ C.    |
|---|----------|--|----------|
| July 8. To cash paid W. G. Goddard, amount he advanced to H. H. Brown, for journal of 1836, | 33 50    | June 13. By balance old acc. rendered Convention,    | 58       |
| “ do. paid W. Hathaway, postage,  | 2 00     | 14. “ Cash received fm Wickford, '34, '35, '36, '37, | 15 75    |
| Aug. 29. “ do. paid H. H. Brown, journal, 1837,   | 64 00    | “ “ Zion Ch. Newp't. St. Paul's do. Portsmouth,      | 10 00    |
| “ do. paid postages,  | 55       | “ “ St. Michael's, Bristol,                          | 5 00     |
| 1838.   |          | “ “ St. Mark's, Warren,                              | 8 00     |
| June 12. “ balance per contra to new account,   | 19 78    | “ “ St. Paul's, Pawtucket,                           | 7 00     |
|   |          | “ “ Emmanuel's, Manville,                            | 6 00     |
|   |          | “ “ Nativity, Chepachet,                             | 3 00     |
|   |          | “ “ St. Luke's, East Greenwich,                      | 3 00     |
|   |          | “ “ Christ Church, Westerly,                         | 5 00     |
|   |          | 17. “ St. John's, Prov.                              | 5 00     |
|   |          | Aug. 10. “ Trinity, do. Newport, '36, '37,           | 12 00    |
|   |          | 16. “ Grace do. Prov.                                | 22 50    |
|   |          | 1838.  | 12       |
|   |          | Mar 16. “ Tower Hill do. South Kingstown,            | 5 00     |
|   |          |  |          |
|   | \$119 83 |  | \$119 83 |
|   |          |  |          |
|   |          | 16. “ balance credited new account,                  | \$19 78  |

(Errors Excepted.)

ALEXANDER JONES, *Treasurer.*

Providence, June 12th, 1838.



## APPENDIX D.

Agreeably to a resolution adopted at the last annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Rhode-Island, the Board of Education respectfully submit the following

## REPORT.

It will be recollected that the last Convention decided to entrust the subject of the education of pious and indigent young men for the Christian ministry, to a Board of Managers, consisting of three persons, to be elected annually by the Convention. In accordance with this decision, they appointed the Rev. Dr. Crocker, the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, and William G. Goddard, a Board of Education for the year then ensuing.—Exercising a power vested in them for that purpose, the Board organized themselves by the choice of Dr. Crocker, as President, the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, as Treasurer, and William G. Goddard, as Secretary.

Immediately after their organization, the Board voted to accept as beneficiaries, the following persons, hitherto beneficiaries of the Rhode-Island Episcopal Education Society, viz:—George W. Randall, of Warren; Edmund Brown, of Woonsocket; James Malchakey, of Warren; Baylies P. Talbot, of Fall-River, Massachusetts; and Charles Fisher, of Franklin, Massachusetts. The Board moreover resolved that no person be hereafter admitted as a beneficiary of this Board, until after he has undergone an examination by a majority of the Board, and been approved, except such as may be nominated by some association or individual, as their special beneficiary.

There are at present six beneficiaries, sustained by the Church, viz:—Mr. George M. Randall, the beneficiary of Grace Church, Providence; Mr. Edward Brown, the beneficiary of St. Michael's Church, Bristol; Mr. Thomas Fales, the beneficiary of St. John's Church, Providence; James Malchakey, sustained by Mr. Gilliat, of Newport; and Messrs. Baylies P. Talbot and Charles F. Fisher, the beneficiaries of the Board.

Since the last session of this Convention, Mr. Nicholas Hoppin, at that time a beneficiary of St. John's Church, Providence, has completed his professional studies in the General Theological Seminary, at New-York. He is now usefully employed in the ministry of the Church. Mr. Fales, his successor in the scholarship established by St. John's Church, is now pursuing his studies as a member of the junior class, in the General Theological Seminary.

Mr. Randall is expected to complete his studies at the Seminary, in a few weeks. He is already engaged to assume the pastoral care of an important parish, so soon as he shall have been ordained.

Mr. Brown is pursuing his academical course, as an undergraduate in Washington College, Hartford, Connecticut. Messrs. Talbot, Fisher, and Malchakey, are now preparing to enter the same College in September next.

The report which the Treasurer of the Board is prepared to submit to the Convention, will indicate the amount of money received during the year, the manner in which it has been expended, and the sources from which it was derived.

There is now due to Mr. Malchakey from the Board, the sum of thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents. The responsibility in this case having in a spirit of truly Christian liberality, been assumed by a member of Zion Church, Newport, the funds of the Board are not deemed liable to any demand for the support of Mr. Malchakey.

The sum of thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents was due to Mr. Fisher, on the first of March last, and an additional sum to the same amount will become due to him in September next. To meet this responsibility, reliance is placed on pledges to the following amount, viz:—thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents, from the Rev. James W. Cooke, of New-York; five dollars from St. James's Church, Woonsocket; five dollars from Emmanuel's Church, Manville; and ten dollars from St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill. The small balance which remains in the treasury is inadequate to make up the sum required. After these pledges are redeemed, and after the treasury has exhausted its remaining resources, the sum of five dollars and forty-five cents will still be wanted, in order to enable the Board to fulfil its obligations to the beneficiary to whom its assistance has been promised.

The Board have learnt with sincere pleasure, that members of Grace Church, Providence, have founded another scholarship, and in communicating this act of munificence to the Convention, the Board are not without hope that it may provoke others to corresponding efforts in behalf of an object deemed so vitally important to the interests of the Church.

In behalf of the Board,

WILLIAM G. GODDARD, *Secretary.*

## APPENDIX E.

DR. *The Board of Education in account with* GEORGEW. HATHAWAY, *Treasurer.*

CR.

| 1837.                                       | \$ C            | 1837.                                       | \$ C.           |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| July 10. To paying James Malchakey,         | 37 50           | July 8. Received of Treasurer of Educ. Soc. | 40 13           |
| 15. " " Baylies P. Talbot,                  | 18 75           | " " Mr. J. H. Gilliat,                      | 37 50           |
| Aug. 17. " " Treasurer's blank book,        | 33              | " " A. Jones, Esq.                          | 2 00            |
| Nov. 11. " E. Munroe, for Secretary's book, | 1 25            | Nov. 10. " St. Paul's Ch. North Provid.     | 41 31           |
| " " paying Charles Fisher,                  | 18 75           | Dec. 6. " Mr J. H. Gilliat,                 | 37 50           |
| Dec. 11. " " James Malchakey,               | 37 50           | 12. " Rev. E. Munroe,                       | 5 00            |
| " " " Baylies P. Talbot,                    | 37 50           | " " Christ Ch. Lonsdale,                    | 5 00            |
| 1838.                                       |                 | " " St. James's Ch. Woonsocket,             | 5 00            |
| Feb. 22. " " Charles Fisher,                | 37 50           | 1838.                                       |                 |
| June 12. " " Baylies P. Talbot,             | 37 50           | July 10. " Christ Ch. Westerly,             | 12 50.          |
| " " for postage,                            | 81              | Feb. 22. " Rev. Mr. Burge,                  | 10 00.          |
| June 12. " balance carried to new account,  | 12 05           | Mar. 12. " St Mark's Ch. Warren,            | 25 00.          |
|   |                 | June 12. " Christ Ch. Westerly,             | 12 50.          |
|   |                 | " " St Paul's Ch. Wickford,                 | 1 00.           |
|   |                 | " " Christ Ch. Lonsdale,                    | 5 00.           |
|   | <u>\$239 44</u> |   | <u>\$239 44</u> |

St. John's Church, Providence, Grace Church, Providence, and St. Michael's Church, Bristol, paid the amount of their charities directly to their respective beneficiaries, without its passing through the hands of the Treasurer, and it is not therefore mentioned in the above account.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, *Treasurer.*

## APPENDIX F.

The Committee to whom was referred a printed letter from the Bishop, "to the Clergy and Laity of the people of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the Eastern Diocese," together with a written communication to a member of this Convention, having given them the consideration which their important contents and high origin demanded, and judging it inexpedient at the present time, and with the purposes we entertain, wholly unnecessary to agitate the question of assistant Bishop, beg leave to propose for the adoption of this Convention, the following preamble and résolutions, to wit :—

Whereas, in the opinion of this Convention, the *reasons* which led the Church of Rhode-Island to unite for certain purposes with her sister Churches of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont, *no longer exist*; and whereas, the further continuance of such union is attended with several inconveniences, without any corresponding advantage; and furthermore, as the communication from the Bishop, submitted to your Committee, informs us that if it be the "wish of any State to *withdraw* from the association of States comprising the Eastern Diocese, it must be done at the meeting of the General Convention in September next, or it must be postponed till the next General Convention, three years after;" Therefore

*Resolved*, That a Committee be now appointed by this body to make application forthwith to the several State Conventions, for leave to withdraw from the union.

*Resolved*, That in case such permission be granted, according to a provision of the Constitution, the Committee be further instructed to ask of our venerated Diocesan, as a special favor, that he would continue his Episcopal supervision of the Church in this State.

*Furthermore—Resolved*, That, whenever in the course of Divine Providence the Eastern Diocese shall be dissolved, its Episcopal fund must be divided according to some rule of equity; it is the unanimous opinion of this Convention, that inasmuch as most, if not all the donations and bequests were made for the general benefit of the Church in the Eastern Diocese, and *not* for the special good of the Church in the State where the donors happened to live—*equity* will require that it be apportioned according to the number of Churches in the several States at the time when the donations and bequests were made.

## APPENDIX G.

## RULES OF ORDER.

1. Every stated Convention shall be opened with prayer, the communion, and a sermon; the preacher having been previously appointed by the Convention.

2. The morning service of the Church, or a special service appointed by the Bishop, shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention.

3. When the President takes the chair, no member shall continue standing, or shall afterward stand up except to address the chair.

4. No member shall absent himself from the house unless he have leave or be unable to attend.

5. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the house, he shall rise and with due respect address himself to the President, and confine himself strictly to the point in debate.

6. When two members chance to rise at the same time, the President shall determine to whom the preference shall be given; and on all questions of order the President shall decide—subject to an appeal to the house.

7. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question, without leave.

8. No motion shall be acted upon until seconded, and, when required, reduced to writing.

9. While the President is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse to the interruption of the house.

10. Every member who is in the house, when any question is put, shall on a division be counted, unless he be personally interested in the question, or excused by the President. No member personally interested in any question, shall without permission, act in any capacity while it is under deliberation.

11. When a motion is under consideration, no other motion shall be made, except to postpone, to amend, to divide, or to commit.

12. A motion for amendment or postponement shall be considered as the previous question, and be decided before the original motion.

13. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

14. The yeas and nays shall be called and entered on the minutes when required by one fifth of the members present.

15. At the request of the President, or on motion, the Convention may resolve itself into a committee of the whole.

16. All elections when required by two members, shall be by ballot.

17. When the lay members vote by congregation, it shall also be by ballot.



18. All other questions shall be decided *viva voce*, or by hand vote, unless a ballot be called for by two members.

19. The sittings of the Convention shall be open to all persons who choose to attend, unless otherwise ordered by the house.

20. After the first day, the minutes of the preceding day shall be read each morning at the opening of the Convention, and if necessary, corrected; and before the rising of the Convention, the whole proceedings of the session shall be read.

21. When the house is about to rise, every member shall keep his seat until the President leaves his chair.

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## CANONS.

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### CANON 1.

#### **Standing Committee.**

There shall be a Standing Committee consisting of three clergymen and three laymen, to be elected at each stated meeting of the Convention, who shall keep regular minutes of their proceedings, subject to the inspection of the Convention, and shall continue in office until the election of a new committee. A majority shall be a quorum.

### CANON 2.

#### **Testimonial of Delegates.**

Lay delegates to the Convention shall present testimonials of their election which shall be in conformity with the mode prescribed by the parish they represent, and signed by the parish clerk, or secretary of the vestry.

### CANON 3.

#### **Testimonial of new Parishes.**

Delegates from new parishes applying for admission into the Convention, shall present a certificate signed by the parish clerk, or the secretary of the vestry, declaring that certain individuals have united in the formation of a parish, elected wardens and vestrymen, and other necessary officers, and adopted and taken measures to become incorporated under a charter formed in accordance with the principles and usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, and that they accede to the General and State Constitution and Canons.

### CANON 4.

#### **Provision for printing Public Documents.**

The Committee of the Convention shall when directed, cause to be published, from the funds of the Convention, the proceedings of the stated

meetings of this body, together with a list of the ministers of the Church residing within the State, annexing the names of their respective cures, or stations; or if those who have no stated cure, or station, the place of residence; and also the Constitution, Canons, and Rules of Order.

#### CANON 5.

##### **Neglect of Parochial Reports.**

In order to secure a full and accurate view of the state of the Church, in case the requisitions of the 51st general canon on this subject are not complied with by the minister or other proper authority of any parish, it shall be the duty of the Convention to cause inquiry to be made into its condition.

#### CANON 6.

##### **Offences for which Ministers shall be tried and punished.**

Disorderly, scandalous, and immoral conduct, neglect of duty, engaging in any worldly avocations palpably incompatible with the clerical office, and the due discharge of pastoral duty, disregard of the constitution and canons of the general and state convention, a continued non-attendance at the annual convention of the Church in this State, disseminating or countenancing opinions contrary to the doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, are offences for which a clergyman ought to be censured, and for which when accused, he ought to be brought to trial.

#### CANON 7.

If any clergyman of this Church offend in any one or more of the instances enumerated in the foregoing canon, complaint may be made thereof, by any presbyter to the annual convention; and if, in the opinion of a majority of the presbyters present, there shall be sufficient cause for said complaint, it shall be their duty to furnish the accused with a copy of the charge or charges, specifying a time, not short of thirty days, when and place where he shall appear to answer to the same. No layman, however, shall act as advocate for either party on the trial, and if the major part of the presbyters present at the trial, after hearing the evidence, shall judge the accused person guilty of said charge or charges, their decision shall be made known to the Bishop, and he shall pronounce judgment accordingly.

#### CANON 8.

To defray the contingent expenses of the Convention, a sum sufficient for this purpose shall be assessed upon the several parishes in proportion to the salaries of the respective ministers; for the payment of which several sums, each minister shall be made responsible.

CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,  
IN THE STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND.

This Church as a constituent part of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and also by conventional agreement of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese, accedes to the general constitution of this Church, and to the particular constitution of this Diocese, and acknowledges their authority.

ARTICLE 1.

There shall be a stated Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State on the second Tuesday in June, in each year, alternately in Providence and Newport, in such parish as shall be determined by the Convention.

ARTICLE 2.

After divine service, the President and Secretary of the preceding Convention shall take their places, when it shall be the duty of the Secretary to call the names of the clergy, on the catalogue, and to receive and read the certificates of the lay delegates. The President and Secretary for the ensuing year shall then be chosen, and the minutes of the preceding Convention shall be read, and the necessary committees appointed.

ARTICLE 2.

The Convention shall be composed of the officiating ministers settled in the parishes in this State, and also of such ministers as are employed as instructors in any incorporated seminary of learning in this State, and of missionaries officiating within this State, under the direction of the ecclesiastical authority of the State; and of lay members, consisting of one or more delegates, not exceeding four from each parish, which shall have been recognized by the Convention, duly chosen by the vestry or congregation.

ARTICLE 4.

New parishes shall be admitted into union with this Convention, on presenting to the Convention written evidence, under the authority of the wardens and vestry, that they are duly organized, and accede to the Constitution and canons of the general Convention, and also of the Convention of this State.

## ARTICLE 5.

The Bishop shall preside in the Convention; but when absent, the President shall be chosen by the Convention.

## ARTICLE 6.

A Secretary shall be chosen upon the assembling of the State Convention from among the members thereof, who shall remain in office until the meeting of the next Convention, and until the appointment of a successor. His duty shall be to take minutes of their proceedings, to preserve their journals and records; to attest the public acts of the body, and faithfully to deliver into the hands of his successor, all books and papers relative to the concerns of the Convention which may have been put into his possession. It shall also be his duty to give notice to each minister of the time and place appointed for the meeting of the succeeding Convention.

## ARTICLE 7.

The members of the Convention present on due notification, and being duly organized shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. And in all matters which shall come before the Convention, the members shall deliberate in one body; and in voting, shall vote by individuals. But if in any case it be required by any member, the two orders shall vote separately, and in such case the laity shall vote by congregations, and the concurrence of a majority of each order shall be necessary to constitute a decision.

## ARTICLE 8.

Canons for the government of the Church, and rules of order for the conducting of business may be adopted from time to time by the Convention.

## ARTICLE 9.

The mode of altering this Constitution shall be as follows:—A proposition of amendment shall be introduced in writing and considered in the Convention, and if approved of, shall lie over to the next Convention, and if again approved of in that Convention by a majority of the two orders voting thereon separately, the change shall take place, and the Constitution so altered shall be valid and obligatory.

## APPENDIX H.

The following pledges were made to the Board of Education for the next Conventional year, to be paid semi-annually, viz :

- St. John's Church, Providence, one beneficiary.
- Grace Church, do. two beneficiaries and fifty dollars.
- St. Michael's Church, Bristol, one beneficiary.
- A member of Zion Church, Newport, one beneficiary.
- St. Paul's Church, North Providence, twenty-five dollars.
- Christ Church, Westerly, twenty-five dollars.
- St. Mark's Church, Warren, twenty-five dollars.
- Christ Church, Lonsdale, ten dollars.
- St. James's Church, Woonsocket, ten dollars.
- St. Paul's Church, Wickford, five dollars.
- Rev. James W. Cook, thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents.
- Rev. Francis Peck, eleven dollars, (paid.)
- William G. Goddard, Esq. ten dollars.



## APPENDIX I.

*Proceedings of the Standing Committee from June, 1837, to June, 1838*

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, March 14th, 1837, at the house of the Rev. Dr. Crocker :—

Present—Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rev. George Taft, Rev. A. H. Vinton, Resolved Waterman, and Benjamin Cowell.

The request of Washington Van Zandt to be admitted to Deacon's orders in the Protestant Episcopal Church, is taken up for consideration, and the testimonials and statements in his behalf are heard, whereupon it is voted that he be recommended to the Right Rev. Bishop for Deacon's orders as requested, and be ordained in that holy office.

Witness : B. COWELL, *Secretary*.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee at the house of the Rev. Dr. Crocker, April 23, 1837 :—

Present—Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rev. A. H. Vinton, Rev. G. Taft, Mr. Waterman, Mr. Mumford, and Mr. Cowell.

The request of the Rev. William H. Purviance, a Deacon in the Protestant Episcopal Church, now officiating at Lonsdale, to be admitted to Priest's orders, is taken up for consideration, and the statements in regard to the subject matter of the application, having been duly considered by the Committee ; it is voted that it is inexpedient at present, to recommend him to the Bishop, to be admitted to the order of Priesthood.

Witness : B. COWELL, *Secretary*.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, May 22, 1837 :—

Present—Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rev. G. Taft, Mr. Cowell, Mr. Mumford, and Mr. Waterman.

The application of William Robinson Babcock and Frederick Bird Woodward, for Deacon's orders, having been duly considered, and also the statements and testimonials in their behalf ; It is voted that they be recommended to the Right Rev. Bishop, to be by him admitted and ordained in the office of Deacon in the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Witness : B. COWELL, *Secretary*.

PROVIDENCE, JUNE 9, 1837.

I certify the preceding to be a true copy from the Board of the Proceedings of the Standing Committee, from June, 1836, to June, 1837.

Witness : BENJAMIN COWELL, *Secretary*.

NOTE.—The name of Rev. HENRY M. DAVIS, of Newport, was accidentally omitted among the list of Clergy.



## SPECIAL SESSION.

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GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE, AUGUST 15, 1838.

This being the day appointed for the special meeting of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode-Island, morning prayers were read by Rev. Mr. West, after which the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold took the chair.

The Secretary being absent, the Rev. Mr. Nash was elected Secretary, *pro tem.* and J. H. Carpenter, assistant.

The following Clergymen, entitled to vote in this Convention, appeared and took their seats:—

Rev. John Bristed, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. Erastus D'Wolf, Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rev. Louis Jansen, Rev. Sylvester Nash, Rev. James Pratt, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Alexander H. Vinton, Rev. Henry Waterman, Rev. John West, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, D. D.

The records of the preceding Convention not being in the hands of the Secretary, it was

*Voted*, That the parishes be called in order, and that the Delegates of each parish, present their testimonials;

When the following Lay Delegates presented testimonials of their respective appointments, and took their seats:—

*St. John's Church, Providence*—Alexander Jones, Wm. G. Goddard, John B. Chace, Austin Gurney.

*Grace Church, Providence*—George S. Wardwell, Resolved Waterman, Richmond Brownell, Wm. E. Richmond.

*Zion Church, Newport*—Stephen T. Northam, John H. Gilliat,\* Henry Potter, Augustus Bush.

*Trinity Church, Newport*—Robert Johnson, George Hall, Edward N. Cox, Mr. Harwood.\*

*St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth*—John Burrington, Bateman Munroe.\*

*St. Michael's Church, Bristol*—George Peirce, John G. Harding, Billings Waldron,\* Benjamin Hall.

*St. Mark's Church, Warren*—George Wheaton.

*St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket*—Olney Whipple, Alanson Thayer,\* G. L. Spencer, William Field.

*St. James' Church, Woonsocket*—William Booth, Samuel Greene, Welcome B. Sayles, John B. Walker.

*Christ Church, Westerly*—Lyndon Taylor, Edward W. Babcock, Geo. D. Cross, Wm. R. Babcock.

*St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich*—David Pinniger, Kingsley Bullock, John P. Roberts, Elisha Potter.\*

\* Delegates not present.

*St. Paul's Church, North Kingstown*—Gideon Freeborn, Wm. A. Shaw,\*  
H. N. Reynolds,\* Allen M. Thomas.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Pratt,

*Resolved*, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church and candidates for orders in this Church, who may be in the city of Providence during the meeting of this Convention, and are not members thereof, be admitted to its sittings.

Agreeably to this resolution, Rev. Andrew Fowler, of the Diocese of South Carolina, Rev. Robert E. Northam, of the Diocese of Virginia, Rev. Charles H. Alden, of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, Rev. John B. Fenner, of the Eastern Diocese, State of Rhode-Island, Rev. Henry M. Davis, of ditto, and Messrs. Francis Vinton and Thomas Fales, candidates for holy orders, attended.

On motion,

*Voted*, That the rules of order adopted at the last Convention, be adopted as the rules of this Convention.

The Circular stating the object of the calling of this special Convention, was then read as follows:—

*To the Parishes and Corporations in the State of Rhode-Island, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of the Eastern Diocese.*

WHEREAS requests having been made to the Standing Committee of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Rhode-Island, by a majority of the parishes and corporations of said Church in said State, to cause a special Convention of said parishes and corporations to be called, to take into consideration their separation and withdrawal from the Eastern Diocese of said Church, and to re-consider the vote of the Annual Convention of said parishes and corporations, holden at Westerly in June last, upon that subject; and the Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, Bishop of said Eastern Diocese, having duly approved of the call of said special Convention, for the purpose aforesaid: Wherefore in pursuance of said requests, the Standing Committee have ordered and directed that a special Convention of said parishes and corporations be called, for the purposes aforesaid, to be holden at Grace Church, in Providence, on the 15th day of August next.

The Delegates of the several parishes and corporations to said Annual Convention, will please to take notice of the above, and give their attendance at said time and place, accordingly.

By order of the Standing Committee,

WASHINGTON VAN ZANDT, *Secretary Convention.*

*Providence, July 10th, 1838.*

The resolutions passed at the last Annual Convention in June, at Westerly, in regard to the withdrawal of the Church in Rhode-Island, from the Eastern Diocese, were then read; when it was moved by George D. Cross, that this Convention recede from those resolutions.

The following resolution was then offered by Stephen T. Northam, as a substitute:—

Whereas the resolution passed at the late Annual Convention, that this State withdraw from its connexion with the Eastern Diocese, is inconsistent with the declaratory clause and the 9th article of the Constitution of the Church of this State ;

*Therefore resolved*, That said resolution be and it is hereby declared to be null and void.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Wheaton, the above resolution offered by S. T. Northam, was referred to a committee of seven persons, viz :—

Rev. Messrs. John West, Salmon Wheaton, Alexander H. Vinton, and H. Waterman, of the Clergy, and Messrs. Wm. E. Richmond, Stephen T. Northam, and Wm. R. Babcock, of the Laity, to report at the opening of the afternoon session.

Convention adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.

After calling the roll, a certificate of the election of the following Delegates from Christ Church, Lonsdale, was presented :—

Jesse Whiting, George Kelly, Palemon Walcott, L. M. Blodget.\*

On motion of Wm. G. Goddard,

*Voted*, That the proceedings of this Convention be printed with those of the last Convention.

The Committee appointed to consider and report on the resolution offered in the morning, by Stephen T. Northam, reported as follows :—

The Committee to whom was referred the annexed resolution, offered by S. T. Northam, having had the said resolution under consideration, beg leave to report, That in whatever point of view they consider the resolution of the last annual Convention, to dissolve the connexion now subsisting between the Church in this State and the other churches of the Eastern Diocese, that very important measure appears to be inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution of the Church of Rhode-Island.

By the declaratory clause of that Constitution, it is laid down as a substantive proposition that this Church as a constituent part of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese, acknowledges the authority of its Constitution ; that by the ninth article of the said Constitution it is provided, that any proposition to amend said Constitution, shall be “considered in the Convention, and if approved of, shall lie over to the next Convention ; and if again approved of in that Convention by a majority of the two orders voting therein separately, the change shall take place, and the Constitution so altered shall be valid and obligatory.”

If this Church be a part of the Eastern Diocese, that connexion is a part of its own Constitution—a fundamental law of its organization, which cannot be altered, amended, or otherwise modified, except in the mode pointed out in the ninth article of our Constitution.

It has been suggested that the declaratory clause of our Constitution ought not to be considered as a part of the binding text thereof, but merely as a preamble thereto ; and therefore not requiring for its amendment, the formality of a reference from one Convention to another.



But it appears to the Committee entirely immaterial in what particular form our relation with the other Churches of the Diocese be acknowledged or asserted ; that acknowledgment or assertion is fundamental, and affecting our existence and organization as a Church.

In support of this view, the Committee beg leave to submit the following remarks :—

“ It is true that the *preamble* is no part of a *statute*, i. e. it does not control the enacting words, though it is sometimes, but not always, useful in ascertaining the meaning and intent. But then, what is a *preamble*?—Not every paragraph which is so entitled, or which is prefixed to the enumerated articles of a Constitution. But it is that which merely declares the motives and objects for or because of which the statute, &c. is made. Now the paragraph prefixed to our Constitution, is not, in the opinion of the Committee, a “*preamble*,” in the sense of the law books, which say that a preamble is no part of a statute ; but on the contrary, it forms Art. 1, of the Constitution, and perhaps ought to have been so numbered.—For it is not a declaration of the motives of forming that Constitution or of any causes leading thereto ; but is an explicit declaration of a fundamental principle of the compact, viz : That the Church of Rhode-Island is not only a part of the National Church, but of the Eastern Diocese, and acknowledges their authority. The Committee therefore regard this as a fundamental principle of the Constitution ; nor do we see any difference in so far as it affects the present question between a proposition to withdraw from the Eastern Diocese, and one to withdraw from the National Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction. Each of them goes deeply to affect, *indeed* to annihilate a fundamental proposition or article of the compact ; of course, we conclude that such proposition can be acted upon only in the mode pointed out in article nine of our Constitution.”

S. WHEATON, CHAIRMAN,  
JOHN WEST,  
ALEXANDER H. VINTON,  
H. WATERMAN,  
S. T. NORTHAM,  
W. E. RICHMOND,  
W. R. BABCOCK.

Which report, on motion of Rev. Mr. Pratt, was accepted, and on motion of Wm. E. Richmond, the resolution was adopted.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Vinton,

*Voted*, That the Treasurer of the Convention be authorized to pay five dollars to defray the expense incurred by the Standing Committee in taking measures to call this special Convention.

On motion of Alexander Jones,

After singing the 107th Psalm, and prayer and benediction by the Bishop, the Convention was dissolved.

Attest,  
SYLVESTER NASH, *Secretary, pro tem.*

# JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

FORTY-NINTH

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OF THE

STATE OF RHODE-ISLAND,

HELD IN

T. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE, ON TUESDAY, JUNE 11,  
AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, A. D. 1839.



PROVIDENCE:

PRINTED BY H. H. BROWN.

1839.



## LIST OF CLERGY IN RHODE-ISLAND.

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Rev. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

Rev. LEMUEL BURGE, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Kingstown.

Rev. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

Rev. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren.

Rev. LOUIS JANSEN, Rector of Christ Church, Lonsdale.

Rev. SYLVESTER NASH, Rector of St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich.

Rev. ROBERT E. NORTHAM, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.

Rev. SAMUEL PENNY, jun. Deacon, Minister of St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.

Rev. JAMES PRATT, Rector of Christ Church, Westerly.

Rev. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Providence.

Rev. ALEXANDER H. VINTON, Rector of Grace Church, Providence.

Rev. FRANCIS VINTON, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Providence.

Rev. HENRY WATERMAN, Rector of St. James's Church, Woonsocket.

Rev. JOHN WEST, Rector of Zion Church, Newport.

Rev. SALMON WHEATON, D. D. Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

## LIST OF LAY DELEGATES,

*Certificates of whose election by their respective Churches,  
were presented and approved.*

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PROVIDENCE.—*St. John's Church.* Alexander Jones, William G. Goddard, Austin Gurney, Zachariah Allen.

*Grace Church.* George S. Wardwell, Resolved Waterman, Henry Barton, Samuel Larned.

*St. Stephen's Church.* Gideon Gurnett, Joseph Adams, Henry Gardner, William Blanding.

NEWPORT.—*Zion Church.* Stephen T. Northam, Samuel Whitehorn, Henry Potter, Augustus Bush.

PORTSMOUTH.—*St. Paul's Church.* John Burrington, Albert C. Green, John G. Childs, Joseph Thomas.

BRISTOL.—*St. Michael's Church.* George Pearse, John G. Harding, Benjamin Hall, Billings Waldron.

WARREN.—*St. Mark's Church.* Hail Collins, Anderson Martin.

NORTH-PROVIDENCE. *St. Paul's Church.* Danforth L. Peck, Horace Miller, Joseph Smith, Alanson Thayer.

WOONSOCKET.—*St. James's Church.* Eli Pond, jun. John B. Walker, Samuel Green, W. B. Sayles.

WESTERLY. *Christ Church.* Lynden Taylor, Stephen Smith, jun. Jesse L. Moss, Joseph M. Willcox.

EAST-GREENWICH.—*St. Luke's Church.* David Pinniger, Kingsley Bullock, William Tibbitts, Elisha Potter.

NORTH-KINGSTOWN. *St. Paul's Church.* Gideon Freeborn, William A. Shaw, Benoni P. Bates, Allen M. Thomas.

WAKEFIELD.—*Church of the Ascension.* Albert Robinson, Elisha Watson, jun. William C. Watson, Carder Hazard.

TOWER HILL.—*St. Paul's Church.* John Robinson, Stephen Browning, jun. Freeman P. Watson, Elisha F. Watson.

KINGSTON.—*St. Peter's Church.* George N. Champlin, Job W. Watson, Thomas A. Hazard, Wilkins Updike.

NOTE.—Trinity Church, Newport, and the Churches at Lonsdale, Jamestown, Chepachet and Manville, were not represented by the Laity.



# JOURNAL.

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ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE, JUNE 11, 1839.

This being the day appointed by the Constitution for the annual meeting of the Convention, it assembled in St. John's Church, Providence. Morning prayer was read by the Rev. G. W. Hathaway, assisted by the Rev. S. Nash, who read the Lessons: after which the Convention sermon was preached by the Rev. L. Jansen. The Holy Communion was administered by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Crocker, Rector of the Church.

After the religious services, the Convention proceeded to organize, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold in the Chair. The Rev. James Pratt was chosen Secretary for the ensuing year. Upon calling the roll, the following of the Clergy were found to be present, viz. Rev. John Bristed, Rev. Lemuel Burge, Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rev. Louis Jansen, Rev. Sylvester Nash, Rev. Robert E. Northam, Rev. Samuel Penny, jun. Rev. James Pratt, Rev. George Taft, Rev. Alexander H. Vinton, Rev. Francis Vinton, Rev. Henry Waterman, Rev. John West, Rev. Salmon Wheaton, D. D.

The following Lay Delegates answered to their names and took their seats, viz. Alexander Jones, William G. Goddard, Austin Gurney, Zachariah Allen, George S. Wardwell, Resolved Waterman, Henry Barton, Samuel Larned, Stephen T. Northam, Augustus Bush, Albert C. Green, Joseph Thomas, George Pearse, John G. Harding, Billings Waldron, Hail Collins, Anderson Martin, Danforth L. Peck, Horace Miller, Joseph Smith, Alanson Thayer, Eli Pond, jun. John B. Walker, Samuel Green, W. B. Sayles, Lynden Taylor, Stephen Smith, jun. Jesse L. Moss, Joseph M. Willecox, David Pinniger, Elisha Potter, Gideon Freeborn, Allen M. Thomas, Elisha F. Watson, George N. Champlin, Wilkins Updike.

The rules of order governing the last Convention, were then read and adopted as the rules of order for this session.

Communications were received, and read by the Secretary, from St. Stephen's Church, Providence, and from the Church of the Ascension, Wakefield, certifying that they were duly organized, and requesting to be admitted into union with this Convention. Whereupon,

On motion, the aforesaid Churches were received as members of this body, and the following gentlemen took their seats as Lay Delegates therefrom:—

*St. Stephen's Church, Providence.*—Gideon Gurnett, William Blanding.

*Church of the Ascension, Wakefield.*—Albert Robinson, Elisha Watson, jun.

The Convention proceeded to elect, *viva voce*, committees on various subjects, viz.

*On unfinished business.* Rev. James Pratt, Rev. F. Vinton, G. S. Wardwell.

*Finance.*—Rev. G. W. Hathaway, Alexander Jones, S. T. Northam.

*Education.*—Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., W. G. Goddard, Samuel Larned.

*Missionary operations in R. Island.*—Rev. John West, Rev. A. H. Vinton, Hail Collins.

*To revise Parochial Reports.*—Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D., Rev. A. H. Vinton, W. G. Goddard.

On motion, *Resolved*, To appoint a committee to revise the Canons; whereupon the following gentlemen were appointed as said committee, viz. Rev. G. W. Hathaway, Rev. A. H. Vinton, W. G. Goddard.

A communication from the Secretary of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of New-Hampshire, asking the consent of this Convention to its withdrawal from the Eastern Diocese, was then read, and,

On motion, was referred to a committee, consisting of Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. and W. G. Goddard.

*Resolved*, That when we adjourn, it be to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M.

*Resolved*, That at 4 o'clock, P. M. the Convention proceed to the election of officers.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock.

3 o'clock, P. M. Convention met pursuant to adjournment. After calling the roll, it was

On motion, *Resolved*, That Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church and candidates for orders in this Church, who may be in the city during the meeting of this Convention and are not members thereof, be admitted to its sittings.

On motion, G. S. Wardwell was appointed a committee to transfer the accounts of the late Treasurer to the Treasurer just elected.

W. G. Goddard was excused from farther attendance upon this day's session.

The committee on Sunday schools, appointed at the last Convention. reported, (see Appendix B.) and,

Whereupon the [Rev. Francis Peck, of the Diocese of Maryland, appeared and took his seat.

The committee to which was referred the communication from the Convention of New-Hampshire, reported, recommending the adoption of the following resolution :

*“Resolved, That this Convention consent to the request of the Convention of New-Hampshire, thus constitutionally presented, to withdraw from the Eastern Diocese.”*

On motion, the Report was received, and the resolution adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Secretary transmit the above resolution to the Secretary of the Convention of New-Hampshire.

The committee on unfinished business reported that none such had been found.

On motion, *Resolved*, That in the selection of Delegates to attend the General Convention, not more than one Delegate shall be chosen from any one parish.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to nominate the Delegates to the General Convention ; also, the Standing Committee and Treasurer.

The Rev. G. Taft, Rev. A. H. Vinton, Rev. J. Pratt, Samuel Green and John G. Harding, were appointed this committee.

*Resolved*, That the Convention adjourn at half past 6, P. M. to meet again at half past 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Rev. L. Jansen asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of this day's session.

The nominating committee reported the nomination of the following gentlemen, as Delegates to the General Convention, viz. Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. A. H. Vinton, Rev. G. W. Hathaway, Rev. James Pratt, of the Clergy. Edward S. Wilkinson, Benjamin Hall, Samuel Whitehorn, John B. Walker, of the Laity. For Standing Committee, Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. G. Taft, Rev. A. H. Vinton, Messrs. George Mumford, Benjamin Cowell, Resolved Waterman. Report received.

The Convention then went into the election, *viva voce*, when all the gentlemen nominated were elected.

Lynden Taylor, Esq. was chosen Treasurer for the year ensuing, vice Alexander Jones, Esq. who declined a re-election.

Rev. H. Waterman, Rev. S. Nash and G. S. Wardwell were appointed a Board to superintend Sunday school operations in this State.

Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. G. W. Hathaway and W. G. Goddard were appointed a Board of Theological Education, for the year ensuing.

The Rev. H. Waterman was appointed to preach the next Convention sermon. The Rev. A. H. Vinton his substitute.

The Treasurer for the past year presented his account, which was read and approved. (Appendix A.)

On motion, the report was received and ordered to be printed with the Journal.

Messrs. Alanson Thayer and Joseph Smith obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the day.

*Resolved*, To re-consider the resolution appointing half past 6 o'clock, P. M. as the hour of adjournment, and half past 7 o'clock, P. M. for re-assembling.

*Resolved*, That when we adjourn, it be to meet at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Rev. G. Taft asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the day.

*Resolved*, That the reading of the Parochial Reports be the first business of to-morrow morning.

Adjourned, to meet to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1839.

8 o'clock, A. M. After prayers by the Rev. Mr. Pratt, the Convention came to order. After calling the roll, the proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

The Parochial Reports were then read, (see Appendix C.) and referred to the committee of revision.

The Board of Education reported, (Appendix D.) and

On motion, their report was received and ordered to be printed with the Journal.

The committee appointed to transfer the Treasurer's accounts from the former to the new Treasurer, reported that no book had been kept as the property of this Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Treasurer be authorized to procure a book, and cause to be copied into it the past accounts.

Messrs. Albert C. Green, Joseph Thomas and W. B. Sayles were excused from further attendance.

*Resolved*, That 1000 copies of the Journal of the proceedings of this Convention be published.

The Secretary and W. G. Goddard were appointed a Publishing Committee.

Jesse L. Moss was excused from farther attendance upon this session.

The Finance Committee reported, (see Appendix E.) Report received.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be instructed to transmit to the Conventions of Maine, New-Hampshire and Massachusetts, the following preamble and resolution, passed at a special Convention of this Church, in August, 1838.

"Whereas the resolution passed at the late annual Convention, that this State withdraw from its connexion with the Eastern Diocese, is inconsistent with the declaratory clause, and the 9th Article of the Constitution of the Church of this State:"



“ Therefore, *Resolved*, That said resolution be and it is hereby declared to be null and void.”

On motion, *Resolved*, That the committee on Canons be instructed to report a standing order of business for this Convention.

The committee on Canons were instructed to revise the Constitution and the rules of order.

The committee on Canons stated that they would be unable to report at this session, and requested leave to sit again and report at the next annual Convention. Leave granted.

The Missionary committee made a report, (see Appendix F.) and recommended the adoption of the following Canon, viz.

“ Be it enacted by this Convention, that a Board for conducting missions within the State, be appointed, to consist of such of the Clergy as shall pledge themselves to pay into the Treasury of this Board, an annual sum, equal to at least one tenth of their respective salaries, and that they report annually to the Convention their proceedings, together with an account of their receipts and expenditures.”

The following amendment was offered to the Canon, as reported :

“ And all appointments of Missionaries shall be made on nomination of the Bishop of the Diocese.”

The Missionary committee then asked and obtained leave to withdraw and alter the Canon as proposed.

It was subsequently reported in the following form :

“ Be it enacted by this Convention, that a Board for conducting missions within the State, be appointed, to consist of such of the Clergy as shall pledge themselves to pay into the Treasury of this Board, an annual sum, equal to, at least, *one tenth* of their respective salaries, and that they report annually to the Convention their proceedings, together with an account of their receipts and expenditures. The Bishop of the Diocese shall be, “ *ex officio*,” the President of the Board, and no appointment of Missionaries shall be made by the Board, without his approbation. The Treasurer of this Board shall be a layman of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State.”

The above amendment was again moved and lost. The Canon as last reported was then on motion unanimously adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, As the sense of this Convention, that the rejection of the amendment proposing to insert the word *nomination*, instead of approbation, was considered a merely verbal question, not affecting the rights of the Bishop.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the report of the committee on Missions be printed with the Journals.

On motion, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted ; the mover and others accompanying them with remarks :

“ Whereas God, in his wise Providence, has seen fit, since our last



annual Convention, to take out of this world the soul of our deceased brother, the Rev. Ephraim Munroe ; therefore,

“ *Resolved*, That this Convention record the high estimation in which it held the deceased, as a faithful and devoted minister of the gospel, an humble and exemplary Christian, a true and affectionate friend.

“ *Resolved*, That the heart-felt sympathy of this body be tendered to the widowed mother and afflicted family of our departed brother, and that the Secretary be directed to transmit to them a copy of the above preamble and resolutions.”\*

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Secretary be requested to prepare for insertion in the Journal, a tabular view of the statistics of the Church.

The Rev. G. Taft and Alanson Thayer were excused from farther attendance.

The Rev. Dr. Wheaton was also excused for the remainder of the session.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be authorized to procure for the use of this Convention, three copies of the Constitution and Canons of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the U. States, and two copies of the Journal of the last Triennial Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the next annual Convention be holden in St. Paul's Church, North-Providence, on the second Tuesday in June, 1840.

On motion, *Resolved, unanimously*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold, for his kindness in attending and presiding at the present meeting, and that the Treasurer be directed to pay him ten dollars, to defray the expenses of his attendance.

A motion was made, but was not carried, that the proposed amendment to the Canon, recommended by the committee on Missions—also the resolution declaring the difference between the Canon and amendment to be merely verbal, be omitted in the printed Journals.

The minutes of the session were then read and approved ; after which, the benediction was pronounced by the Bishop, and the Convention adjourned, *sine die*.

JAMES PRATT, SECRETARY.

\* In this connexion, the subjoined facts deserve to be recorded. The Messrs. Man, proprietors of an extensive manufacturing establishment at Manville, the scene of Mr. Munroe's pastoral labors, entertained for his character such high respect, that they determined to erect, at their own expense, a marble monument to his memory. When the operatives, for whose temporal and eternal good, this excellent Minister had humbly and perseveringly labored, were apprised of the intention of their employers, they insisted on participating in this testimony of respect and affection. Moved by a noble impulse, they actually raised two hundred dollars towards the expense of the monument. The Messrs. Man most cheerfully supplied the rest. A beautiful marble monument now stands in the church-yard of St. Michael's, in Bristol, and commemorates, in most appropriate terms, the virtues of this earnest Christian, and faithful village Pastor.

## APPENDIX A.

DR. *Rhode-Island Episcopal Convention in account with*  
*ALEXANDER JONES, Treasurer.* CR.

| 1838.  | \$ C.           | 1838.  | \$ C.           |
|--|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| June 13. To cash paid E. Munroe, postage, &c.                | 1 31            | June 13. By balance of old acct.                   | 19 78           |
| 25. To do. remitted Dr. Anthon, due General Convention,      | 56              | " " cash from Lonsdale for 1835, '36, '37 and '38, | 22 25           |
| Aug. 15. To do. paid Bishop's passage to special Convention, | 5               | " " do. Portsmouth,                                | 3               |
| Oct. 12. To do. J. H. Carpenter, messenger to Boston,        | 5               | " " do. Bristol,                                   | 8               |
| " 13. To do. paid H. H. Brown, for printing                  |                 | " " do. Warren,                                    | 7               |
| 1839. Journal,   | 74 25           | " " do. St. John's, Prov.                          | 12              |
| June 11. Balance on hand,                                    | 47              | " " do. Grace, do.                                 | 12              |
|  |                 | " " do. Pawtucket,                                 | 6               |
|  |                 | " " do. E. Greenwich,                              | 5               |
|  |                 | " " do. Wickford,                                  | 3               |
|  |                 | " " do. Tower Hill,                                | 3               |
|  |                 | " " do. Westerly,                                  | 5               |
|  |                 | " " do. Kingston,                                  | 3               |
|  |                 | Aug. 15. " do. Trinity, Newp.                      | 10              |
|  |                 | " " do. Zion, do.                                  | 10              |
|  |                 | " " do. Woonsocket,                                |                 |
|  |                 | " " '37 and '38,                                   | 10              |
|  |                 | " " do. Manville,                                  | 3               |
|  | <u>\$142 03</u> |  | <u>\$142 03</u> |

E. E.  
 ALEXANDER JONES, *Treasurer R. I. Epis. Conv.*  
*Providence, June 11, 1839.*

## APPENDIX B.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The committee on Sunday schools have attended to the duty assigned them. They have contemplated, with gratitude to God, the rise, progress and present condition of Sunday schools in this diocese. The first establishment of this kind in this State, and in the United States, was made by a Churchman, in the village of Pawtucket, in 1797. Samuel Slater, then recently from England, brought over with him not only the knowledge of an important branch of manufacture, but also the knowledge of the great moral institution of Raikes. Anxious for the intellectual and moral improvement of the children in his employment, he established for them a Sunday school similar to those established in England by the founder of these institutions. The first teacher was the late Benj. Allen, LL. D., then a member of Brown University, and subsequently a distinguished instructor of a classical school in Hyde Park, New-York. This school was not parochial. Slater may be considered the founder of Sunday schools in this country.

The next Sunday schools in this State were established in Providence, in 1815, under the patronage of a Young Men's Bible Society. In this enterprise, the various denominations of Christians in the town were engaged. These schools were not parochial.

In 1816, Mrs. Joshua B. Wood had quite a numerous school in her own house in Providence, and taught it herself.

In the same year, a colored school was commenced by two ladies of St. John's church, Providence. The first day they had one scholar; in a short time 150. Neither of these schools was parochial.

In 1817, the two ladies just mentioned undertook to gather and organize a parish school in St. John's Church. The proposition was received with so much pleasure by the children, that large numbers of them followed their teachers round from house to house, in search of other children. Before one gentleman could be found to co-operate with these ladies, they had 250 scholars. Then aid came. I remember these things well. Never till my latest breath shall I forget the ardor of the children in their studies, nor the untiring devotion of the teachers to the duties of their high calling. The Rector of that Church writes to me of the school at this time as follows:—"I speak from records, when I say it, many thousand verses of scripture were committed to memory, hundreds of hymns, the four Gospels, the book of Psalms, many chapters of the Proverbs, the Epistles, and all the Collects in the Prayer Book. The Church Catechism was thoroughly learned and faithfully explained. Numbers were converted." This was the first parochial Sunday school in this diocese.

Soon after this, schools were begun in St. Michael's Church, Bristol;

Trinity Church, Newport; St. Paul's Church, North-Providence; and St. Paul's Church, Wickford. There were five in all.

At this number they remained for several years, till the organization of the parishes of Grace Church in Providence, and St. Mark's Church in Warren. From this time, they have steadily and rapidly increased, as new churches have been formed, by the blessing of God upon the labors of the Convocation.

The following table of statistics will show the present condition of the schools:—

- 18 schools, and one more soon to be established in the village of
- 254 teachers. [Wickford.
- 1289 scholars.
- 4272 vols. in libraries.
- 10 Bible classes.
- 2 colored schools, containing 100 scholars.
- 3 infant schools, containing 193 scholars.
- 1 library for infant school, numbering 105 vols.
- 2 teachers added to communion.
- 24 scholars become pious.
- 1 ladies, sewing circle, to render assistance to such children as are needy.
- 2 teachers who have been actively engaged in Sabbath school instruction about 25 years.

The statement of the number of parochial schools in this State is correct; but your committee regret that they are not able to give with equal accuracy the number of teachers, scholars, &c. as they have not been able to obtain the requisite information from two parishes. In one school, \$42 44 have been collected for missions; in another the teachers hold a prayer meeting once a month, for God's blessing upon their labors. In some of our parishes, the Rectors instruct Bible classes; in others, they hold occasional churches for the children, when they sustain the responsive parts of our service, and a sermon suited to their capacity is addressed to them.

There is an interesting school at Mr. Simmons's factory, in Johnston. The account of this school is given in the language of the superintendent. It was established by several communicants of Grace Church, in May, 1833. Previous to 1836, no unusual interest was apparent in the school. But at the close of that year an event transpired calculated to call forth the deepest feelings of gratitude to Almighty God, from those privileged to labor in this blessed cause. A boy about 12 years of age, a member of the school, was laid upon a sick and dying bed. For awhile he appeared thoughtful, and as though something was burdening his mind. An opportunity offered for unbosoming his pent-up feelings, and with tears of joy bursting from his eyes, he told his father that he had found Jesus precious to his soul. "From the instruction of the Sunday school," said he, "I was led to feel myself a sinner in the sight of God. I sought for

pardon and peace in the way pointed out, and found it rich and free in my dear Redeemer."

The school was not sustained through the year 1836. In 1837 it was re-organized under the most favorable auspices. It was sustained throughout the year, with increasing interest. Towards its close, deep feeling was evident, in both teachers and scholars. The Holy Spirit strove, nor were his strivings ineffectual. Four precious souls were made to rejoice in the salvation of Jesus, and their lives show that their rejoicing was not in vain.

The past winter the school was suspended. It was re-opened in May, and is now in a very flourishing condition. There has been lay-reading this year, in addition to the exercises of the school. The number of attendants upon the services has gradually increased, until the room we occupy is crowded. The good effects of these exercises are very apparent. They have excited an interest in the Sunday school which has never before been exhibited. Parents now use their influence to have their children instructed, who have been heretofore sadly neglected. The classes are better supplied with teachers, more constant in their attendance, and more active in their labors.

The prospect of having a house of public worship erected is very encouraging. About \$900 are subscribed, and a situation offered. The principal subscribers are more favorable towards an Episcopal Church than any other.

The average number of scholars attending the school is about 50. There are 6 teachers, a library consisting of 84 vols. and a Bible class connected with the school. There have been 5 conversions.

It is the belief of your committee, that the Sabbath schools in this State were never so flourishing as at the present time, and it is their prayer that the Lord may continue to smile upon these nurseries of the Church.

GEORGE TAFT,

*Chairman of Committee on Sunday Schools.*

*North-Providence, June 10, 1839.*



## APPENDIX C.

## CHRIST CHURCH, WESTERLY.

Though we are not permitted to speak, as in every other report of this parish, of large numbers added to the communion, still there are facts connected with the history of the past year, the review of which calls forth our devout thanksgiving to the indulgent Giver of every good and perfect gift.

Since our last Convention, the parish has nobly determined, notwithstanding its heavy current expenses, to sustain itself. In assuming this position, it may be permitted to express the gratitude which will ever be felt towards the Rhode-Island Clerical Convocation, for the timely and generous aid which it has hitherto extended.

The various societies connected with the Church, viz. the Tract, the Education and the Missionary Societies, are continued with profit, we trust, to those who are interested in their operation. During the year, the Tract Society has distributed about 3000 Tracts of various sizes. The Education Society meets its small pledge of \$25 per ann. and the Missionary Society has paid into the funds of the general society say \$60.

The ladies' sewing circle pursues the even tenor of its way, thankful to pay \$75 annually into the funds of that body, through which, as the agent, we have been so richly blest.

The Sunday school has considerably increased, since the opening of the spring, and may be reported as in a flourishing condition. Three scholars have been added to the Church, since our last report, making in all twenty-seven, who have been taken from the nursery into the bosom of the Church. To the cause of missions the children have contributed about the same as last year, \$10. Believing that children have been too much overlooked in our weekly ministrations, we have commenced what may be termed a children's Church. That is to say, once in two months, or oftener, they are all assembled in the body of the Church, the regular service is performed, and a sermon, adapted to their capacities, is preached. In this exercise the children are much interested, and we trust they may be equally profited.

Our services, during the week, are as follows, viz. on Sunday, preaching twice and in the evening a lecture upon the Liturgy, taking it in regular order. The first Monday evening in the month has been observed in prayerful concert for God's blessing upon the Missionary cause. On Wednesday evening a social meeting is held in the lecture room. On Thursday evening the Bible class is attended, and once in

two weeks, on Saturday evening, the Pastor meets the young communicants at the Parsonage, for prayer and familiar instruction.

The records show of adult baptisms, 4 ; infant do. 1—total, 5 ; communicants added, 8 ; removed, 2 ; died, 1 ; present number, 118 ; confirmations, 7 ; Sunday scholars, by corrected list, 111 ; teachers, male, 7 ; female, 7—14 ; marriage, 1 ; burials, 9 ; contributions to religious objects, \$154.

JAMES PRATT, RECTOR.

### CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, WAKEFIELD.

This Church was organized on the 23th of February last, to supply the Gospel to a large and needy population.

Through the liberality of Elisha Watson, Esq. suitable lots for a Church and parsonage have been obtained, and in a few weeks, the required amount for the erection of a Church, and a large portion of the sum required to build a parsonage, were raised. The contracts are now all closed, the Church is begun, and will be ready, it is hoped, for consecration, in the autumn. The necessity is pressing for the speedy completion of the Church, for meanwhile, there is no place in which to hold public worship. The communicants are six, who, with others interested, are regular worshippers at St. Paul's, Tower Hill, with which the Church of the Ascension is associated.

A ladies' sewing circle is organized, and in active operation. A pastor is called, who has not yet returned a decided answer. Our warmest thanks are due to God, to whom belong the silver and the gold, for his blessing upon this effort to establish the Church which he bought with his own blood. May he send to these sheep in the wilderness, a Pastor after his own heart !

FRANCIS VINTON, MINISTER.

### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, TOWER HILL.

Baptisms, 5 adults ; buried, 3 ; confirmed, 8 ; candidates for confirmation, 2. Communicants—died, 1 ; removed, 1 ; added to communion, 13 ; whole number, 41 ; Sunday school teachers, 10 ; average attendance, 25 ; library, No. of vols. 75, with 50 Testaments and 30 Bibles. One member is pursuing his studies with a view to the ministry.

We have cause to bless God for his dispensations to this parish during the last year. The increased attendance on divine worship, and the new zeal and devotion which quicken the members, and the marked results of our feeble labors, all demand our hearty acknowledgments to Him "from whom all holy desires, all good counsels and all just works do proceed."

The Church has been thoroughly repaired, and all suitable conven-

iences for celebrating divine worship and for administering the sacraments, have been provided. And, above all, the efforts of the Clerical Convocation have been specially blessed in awakening and reviving the Church.

During the winter, when there was no Sunday school, I taught a Bible class of adults, immediately after morning service; and on Wednesday evening I gave Lectures on Episcopacy and the Church. There have been also occasional services preparatory to the communion.

This Church, in connexion with the Church of the Ascension, Wakefield, receives from the Convocation the sum of \$350 towards the support of the Minister.

The ladies' sewing circle is organized; but owing to the scattered population, which renders it inconvenient to meet and to encourage one another, and it is feared, owing likewise to want of zeal for the missionary cause, the sewing circle is exceedingly inefficient.

The Church have called a Pastor, who has not yet returned a decided answer. Meanwhile, the services of a lay reader are secured. The term of the present incumbent expired on Easter day; but the necessities of the parish have retained him until the present time.

FRANCIS VINTON, MINISTER.

### ST. PETER'S CHURCH, KINGSTON.

The undersigned was appointed by the R. Island Clerical Convocation, Missionary to this parish, at their call, to supply the vacancy caused by the resignation of his predecessor, and for the remaining term of his engagement from January to Easter day. The records of the Church on the 1st of January shew, of baptisms, 3 (infants;) burials, 3; marriage, 1; communicants removed, 3; whole number, 21.

During the period of my official connexion with the parish, from January to Easter, as the Missionary of the Convocation, I conducted divine service regularly on the afternoon and evening of the Lord's day, with occasional services during the week. Since Easter, occasional services only have been held, as my strength and obligations to other parishes would permit.

The attendance, for the most part, has been thin and discouraging. Of late, however, through the mercy of God, there seems to have been a renewed attention to public worship, and to the claims of Christianity. The Sunday school is revived, the services of a lay reader are secured, and the promise of new zeal and devotedness cheers the prospect of this struggling parish.

They still worship in the Court House, and need exceedingly the convenience of a Church. Since Easter, communicants added, 3; dropped, 1; present number, 23.

FRANCIS VINTON, MINISTER.

## ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, EAST-GREENWICH.

1 baptism ; 1 confirmation ; 1 marriage.

This Church is in a depressed condition. The series of afflictive occurrences that have befallen the village, have most seriously affected the Church and paralyzed the energies of the parish. There have been some defections, and many removals, so that of the 42 communicants, formerly reported, not more than 18 now remain in actual communion. Though dispirited and feeble, yet they are not destitute of hope that, in the Providence of God, the cloud that now hangs over them may be removed, and their hearts gladdened by prosperity.

S. NASH, Rector.

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WICKFORD.

In this parish, during the past year, four adult persons have come to Christ in baptism and confirmation. One has been received to the communion. I might say, others are hopefully pious, and will, probably, soon cast in their lot among us ; but this, in my judgment, would not be what the Canon requires us to report, or what this Convention would recommend. Two couple have been joined together in holy matrimony, and five persons have been buried. We now number 54 baptized members, 28 of whom are in full communion.

Our Sunday school consists of 66 scholars, having a superintendent, librarian, and 10 teachers. Its library contains 217 volumes. Our sewing circle, few in number, with a commendable zeal, still continue their operations. Fifty-five dollars have been raised from the labors of said circle, and appropriated in part for the benefit of the destitute poor. The balance has been expended in the purchase of a pair of astral lamps for our pulpit and in books for the desk.

LEMUEL BURGE, Rector.

*Wickford, June 11, 1839.*

## ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, JAMESTOWN.

The records of this Church, for the past year, furnish the following statement: Baptisms, adults, 2 ; children, 3 ; total, 5 ; funerals, 2 ; communicants, 3.

The Rector of this Church having but just entered upon his charge, can of course bring before the Convention but little of positive information in reference to the spiritual concerns of the parish. He has the gratification, however, of stating, that its prospects are in many respects very encouraging, and lead him to hope, that by the blessing of God upon a preached Gospel, much good may ultimately be accomplished. Owing to the scattered condition of the population, and other circumstances of a pecul-



iar nature, it seems impracticable to have more than one service upon the Sabbath. That the day, however, may not pass without being fully occupied, the Rector has commenced the organization of a Sunday school, to take the place of the morning service, in the Church, which he is encouraged to believe may yet ripen into an important means of usefulness. Other measures will also be adopted, for the purpose of promoting the spiritual interests of the parish, according as the personal ability of the Rector, and his external resources, shall furnish an opportunity.

In the absence of any other source of regular official information, I would beg leave to append to the foregoing, the following report of parish duties, as late Rector of

#### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH.

My predecessor in this parish, the Rev. J. P. Fenner, resigned his charge on the 1st of July last. The services of the Church, from this date until the 2d of September following, were conducted by lay readers, Messrs. Moore and Randolph, members of the General Theological Seminary. On the 2d of September aforesaid, I entered upon my duties as Rector of the parish. From the accounts which I had received of difficulties existing among the people, it was natural for me to anticipate much embarrassment, in this, my entrance upon the discharge of ministerial duties. It was some time, also, after I had commenced my labors among them, before I was enabled to discover the real complexion of affairs. But I had the happiness of soon discovering, that it neither presented that character, nor aggravated form, which my fears had led me to expect. Long before I abandoned my charge, I had the satisfaction of knowing, that whatever unpleasant circumstances might have transpired, they had by no means entailed an evil, either of an accumulative or a lasting nature. The harmony of the parish at present, is such, that had it not been for other considerations, of a peremptory kind, I could with pleasure have spent my days among them. A state of health, however, which precluded me from doing justice to them, by the discharge of duties absolutely needed and desired by a willing people, compelled me to resign their interests into the care of abler and more efficient hands. The term of my engagement with the parish closed at Easter, when the Rev. Mr. Northam succeeded me in the pastoral charge, and is now occupied in the successful prosecution of his duties.

The records of this Church, during the period of my ministry, present the following statement: Baptisms, 1 adult; deaths, 2; marriages, 2; confirmed, 4; communicants, 24; added, 1.

SAMUEL PENNY, JUN. RECTOR.

*Jamestown, June 8, 1839.*

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#### ZION CHURCH, NEWPORT.

The Rector of this Church is permitted, through the divine goodness,



to report the state of his parish as having been, in most respects, prosperous during the past year. From the facts subjoined, it will be seen that we have more than usual cause for thankfulness in regard to the interest manifested in the cause of Sunday schools and missions, as well as the increase of communicants and members of the parish, during that period. The stated services of the parish have been the same as in former years, except as interrupted for a short period, recently, by the ill health of the Minister. Notwithstanding this exception, the total amount of services has been rather exceeded, than fallen short of, the common average. During the winter, a third service on Sunday was for the most part sustained, which, together with the very profitable meeting of our clerical brethren in Convocation, and some additional services kindly afforded by two of them, exerted a salutary influence on the spiritual interests of the parish. We have always had occasion to be truly thankful to God for his gracious blessing upon the labors of our visiting brethren, assembled in Convocation. The meeting during the present year was exceedingly precious and very much blessed to the benefit of many persons, not only in our own, but among other denominations of Christians. Many, who never before took an interest in such Episcopal services, were constrained to acknowledge that the Lord was with us. These services happily resulted in a revival and more prosperous state of religion. It is deeply to be regretted, however, that seasons like this should be so much restricted in their happy influences, by false and prejudiced views that prevail in regard to what are termed "revivals of religion." We ought to be humbled before God for not profiting still more largely by such gracious opportunities. We would humbly take the shame to ourselves for all our want of improvement; but we cannot forbear to notice also how much our own natural tendency to shrink from the self-denying work a more holy life, to which such a season is felt to prompt us, by the indifference, and scepticism and opposition of the world around us. Fanaticism and artificial excitements are justly condemned by the voice of the Christian community; and none are more decided in exposing and guarding against such abuses of religion, than those who know how to estimate, from happy experience, the benefits of a genuine revival of religion. But, unhappily, there are persons in the Church as well as in the world, who condemn all revivals as the extravagance of religious delusion; and some of them, it is feared, without knowing what they say, or whereof they affirm. It is especially the case with persons in our own Church, who are fond of drawing invidious lines of distinction, and use party appellations, that revivals are made a characteristic of a class, are represented as totally inconsistent with the views and practice of all who are willing to be marked as the ultra or high-church class. But all who view things as they are, and are not tramelled by a sectarian spirit, are explicit in approving and desiring such divine influences as are really meant to be designated by a revival.

It may not be amiss, and I hope it may be deemed not irrelevant here to state, that three of the Bishops of our Church, and those who deservedly hold a distinguished rank of eminence in our Church, viz. the late Bishop of New-York, and the former and present presiding Bishop, have published their sentiments to the world on this subject; and they will be found, I apprehend, to agree in every substantial particular, in approving those special religious seasons which result from the influence of the Holy Spirit, and in ripening to a harvest the labors of the spiritual husbandman.

The only apparent difference of these views results from the larger observation and more practical experience of Bishop Griswold. In regard to this momentous subject, it may be well for Episcopalians to notice the solemn admonition of one of these Bishops, in the following words:—"That the same thing should be by some Christians extolled as the glorious work of God, and by others be denounced as the artifice of Satan, is a fact of *awful* consideration, and should, we might reasonably conceive, cause those who are truly pious, to pause and reflect. It would be well for some if they were less forward to judge and decide; and it should remind us how fallible is human judgment respecting the ways of God." We may add, that if all others were as willing to *aid* their brethren in every really good work, as the many seem to be to judge and oppose them, the Church would be soon blessed of God, and honored by the respect of the world. Happily for the Church in Rhode-Island, this is, for the most part, her own happy condition, and the divine blessing has rested upon *all* who have proved themselves faithful laborers in the Lord's vineyard, by whatever party appellation they may have been called.

The last report of communicants in this parish was 128. There have been since added 31, and removed 9, making the present number 150. The Sunday school has been increased by additions to the number of the two departments heretofore existing, and has also been extended by a new branch of the infant department. To accommodate some of the younger children in the lower part of the town, the superintendent of this school commenced a new one on Sunday last, having about 10 members of the former school, and more than 40 others who have never before attended any Sunday school. The present number of scholars is 276; teachers, 20; library, 59 vols.; 2 teachers and 1 scholar pious; missionary contributions, \$12.

There has been a pleasing addition to our missionary labors, by the formation of a sewing circle consisting of about 20 of the older Sunday school girls, which is superintended by several teachers.

The missionary contributions of the parish have been increased, both in the domestic and foreign department.

Marriages, 3; baptisms, 17—4=21; confirmations, 14; burials, 7.

We have been favored with two visits from our Bishop, who administered and confirmed on each visit.

JOHN WEST, RECTOR.

## TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT.

From the autumn of the year 1810, when, by unanimous request, the present Rector assumed the pastoral charge of this parish, until the spring of 1833, a period of more than twenty-two years, he had the satisfaction of seeing it prosperous and flourishing. Not a single family who had once attached themselves to the church, is remembered ever to have wholly left it; while it frequently received large and respectable accessions from other denominations of Christians. And in all the intermarriages that took place, with but two exceptions, both parties invariably attended Church. During that time, the Church was thoroughly repaired, as were also the Parsonage house, and the Sunday school-house. And he was the humble means of establishing a "Permanent Fund" of more than two thousand dollars, "for the better support of Trinity Church."

Early in the year 1833, when the congregation was much increased in numbers, a second Episcopal Church was established in Newport.

The loss of many valuable members from the congregation, served to depress the energies of the people; though the pews formerly occupied by those who have since left, have been mostly taken; some families have returned; and the congregation, though less numerous and wealthy than it once was, is still comparatively large. The number of communicants is more than a third larger than when he took charge of the Church.

Serious pecuniary difficulties, have also been experienced by the Corporation, in consequence of not receiving the usual bank dividends, for a number of years; by which a debt has been contracted, which, it is thought, will require the sale of most of their real estate to liquidate.

During the year past, the congregation has not materially varied in numbers. While some families have been added, others have recently removed from the town; to be followed, it is feared, by the removal of several families more belonging to the same Church—the continual recurrence of which circumstance has, for many years, greatly retarded the growth and prosperity of the Church in Newport.

The records of Trinity Church show—baptisms, 22; adults, 2—children, 20; marriages, 2; funerals, 14, persons confirmed, 7; communicants, added, 8; died, 3; removed, 3; present number, 130.

The Sunday school, including an adult class, consists of 164 scholars, instructed by 17 teachers. The library belonging to the school, with some additions that have lately been made to it, contains at present about 600 volumes.

S. WHEATON, RECTOR.

*Newport, June 10, 1839.*

## ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BRISTOL.

Without any present appearance of especial awakening, the religious feelings of the parish, and their regular attendance upon the means and ordinances of grace, are encouraging. In the preceding year, 7 infants and 1 adult have been baptized; 3 marriages, and 7 burials have occurred; 7 persons have been confirmed; 10 communicants have been added, and 6 have died; the whole number is 286. The religious services of the parish, are, on the Lord's day, prayers and preaching twice in the Church, a prayer meeting morning and evening, in the lecture room. Monday evenings are occupied in monthly concerts of prayer for missions, Sunday schools, seamen, and other objects of Christian benevolence. On Thursday and Saturday evenings, are held meetings for prayer and religious conference, in the lecture room. On Wednesday evening, the female missionary society meets, and on Friday evening, the Sunday school teachers meet for prayer and mutual instruction. Pastoral visits are made as the broken and breaking health of the Rector permits. The parish has this year, poured \$472 into the treasury of the Rhode-Island Clerical Convocation. Our Education Society sustains a beneficiary at Washington College, Hartford; and the parish of St. Michael has during the past year, contributed \$1847 for religious objects. Our Maternal Association still continues to bless the mothers and children of our society. The report of the superintendent of the Sunday school has been forwarded to the Rev. George Taft, at his request.

JOHN BRISTED, RECTOR.

*Bristol, June 10, 1839.*

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## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

Since the last annual Convention, the Rector has baptized 15; six of them adults; married, 13; received to the communion, 12; buried, 10; communicants in the parish, about the same as last year. Sunday School children, 230; books in the library, 450. The congregation have contributed for religious and charitable purposes, \$2,339.

N. B. CROCKER, RECTOR.

*Providence, June 11, 1839.*

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## GRACE CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

During the past year, 37 persons have been added to our communion; 21 have been confirmed; 13 adults and 9 infants have been baptized. There have been 10 marriages and 10 burials; only one of our communicants has died, and 17 have removed; the number remaining is 256. The Sunday school consists of 210 pupils and 37 teachers. The library contains 563 volumes.



About \$1500 have been contributed to different objects of benevolence, showing an advance of \$300 beyond the contributions of the year preceding. Thirty three dollars of this sum have been given by the pupils of the Sunday school. Several instances of conversion have occurred in the school, of both teachers and scholars. The school for colored adults, which has been hitherto reported, has been recently discontinued. The school in Johnston, of which also mention was formerly made, is in a flourishing condition, as you have already heard from the report of your committee on Sunday schools.

The school in the southern part of this city has proved to be the fruitful germ of a thrifty parish, which has already engaged a Rector, and been admitted into union with this Convention, under the title of St. Stephen's Church.

As this parish is composed mainly of a colony from Grace Church, the number of our communicants will be of course reduced, though to what extent, I cannot say, until the Minister of the new Church has made a record of their number and their names.

The plan of "weekly offerings," which I mentioned in my last report, as begun, has been steadily prosecuted, and with growing success. If this be a criterion of our missionary spirit, then that spirit is either more fervent or more widely spread. We certainly have reason to thank God that in some delightful instances the interest for the missionary cause has penetrated the hearts of our people very deeply. We have greater reason to deplore that these instances are so few. The larger part of our benefactions, and nearly all the pious labors of this parish, have proceeded from the female communicants, of whom there is a well-trying band, and these by no means the most affluent in resources, who are instant in every good word and work. From their energy and their spirit of self-sacrifice they are not only the leaders but the body of reserve in every holy and charitable undertaking. This commendation is not beyond their desert, for it is their least praise that they *will do* all they can.

By the male communicants the subject of lay influence seems not to be so well understood, or else the duty is not so truly appreciated. For this, it has given me much difficulty and anxiety to find a satisfactory reason.

On the whole, it may be said, that our Church is prosperous, and we owe Heaven a large debt for the grace that has made us so.

ALEXANDER H. VINTON, RECTOR.

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#### ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

At the request of the Wardens, I report this Church to the Convention. This Church is the fruit of the devoted labors of Sunday school teachers. It is nearly two years since the school was first organized; now the num-



ber of communicants is between 15 and 20. Public worship has been regularly conducted by a lay reader, on every Sunday morning since the school has been organized. A chapel is now provided, in which divine service has been held by various clergymen on Sunday evenings, before crowded congregations.

The prospects of the Church are encouraging, and measures have been instituted to build a suitable Church. The Sunday school is an object of peculiar interest to the communicants of this Church. It has been the instrument of much spiritual good, both to themselves and the neighboring community, and will be noticed in the report of the committee. Submitted in behalf of the Church, by

FRANCIS VINTON, RECTOR ELECT.

#### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-PROVIDENCE.

Communicants, 143; baptisms, 30; confirmed, 18; marriages, 11; burials, 6; Sunday school teachers, 25; scholars, 130; Bible classes, 4; volumes in the library, 400.

Upon the whole, the temporal and spiritual affairs of this Church were never more flourishing than they have been during the past Conventional year. In addition to what has been done for the Education Society, the Convocation, and other benevolent objects, a plan has been devised and is now in successful operation, to render permanent aid to the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions. The ladies of the parish have, with great liberality, presented their Rector a spacious lot of land, with a commodious dwelling-house situate thereon. This fact is recorded, in the hope that it may provoke other parishes to do *likewise*.

GEORGE TAFT, RECTOR.

*North-Providence, June 10, 1839.*

#### CHRIST CHURCH, LONSDALE.

The prosperity of this parish has been greatly impeded by two evils, under which it has more or less labored, since the first year of its organization; one, the frequent change of its Pastors—the other, the fluctuating character of its population. The former, wherever it exists, by keeping up a continued excitement, and, creating, as it too often does, a party spirit, encompasses the parish with an unhealthy atmosphere, which deeply corrodes its spiritual energies; the latter gives to its fiscal and numerical strength a perplexing instability, which is well calculated to try all the faith and patience which its Rector possesses. By the operation of this cause, the number of the communicants belonging to this Church has of late been greatly diminished.

In temporal things, the parish is doing even more perhaps than its limited resources would authorize. Hoping to be able to sustain itself, it has

asked, neither the past year nor the present, for aid from the Convocation. The fewness of its numbers, however, makes the maintaining of this spirit of independence a very heavy load. The assistance hitherto afforded it by the Lonsdale Company has been prompt and liberal, nor, in proportion to their means, have the people been behind them. There is no parish in the State where such aid could be better or more deservedly applied, if it should ever be solicited. Last year, its current expenses were \$1100, and its expenses for the present year will be nearly \$800. Since the last Convention, the ladies have raised for benevolent purposes, \$60. The spiritual condition of this parish at present is low; to tell this is humiliating, but it is the object of these reports to furnish an annual exhibition of the state of the Church *just as it is*. We cannot therefore flatter in order to please, though, in telling the truth, we would not discourage. Some are doubtless with full purpose of heart, cleaving to the Lord; but, as a whole, this Church must have a deeper conviction of the need of that baptism from on high, which shall imbue it with a spirit of more earnest prayer and unite its members more closely in the bonds of Christian affection.

As it regards our religious services, we have not those facilities which many so richly enjoy. It is always difficult to assemble a congregation, on any other day but the Sabbath, from the hard working community of a factory village; on that day, the services are three; these are comparatively well attended, and with apparent attention to the word. Until lately, a bible class has met on Saturday evening, but, for a short interval it has been suspended. A female prayer meeting is also in operation. On account of the difficulty of obtaining male teachers, the male department of our Sunday school is small. The average attendance of scholars, 60; teachers, 8; vols. in library, 270. Since my pastoral charge of the parish in December last, there have been 6 funerals, and 2 marriages; number of communicants, 42.

LOUIS JANSEN, MINISTER.

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### ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN.

Added to the communion, 3; died, 1; removed, 4; present number of communicants, 112.

Baptisms, 7 infants; marriages, 3; burials, 10.

Sunday school teachers, 22; scholars, 130; library rising 300 volumes.

Weekly offerings for the last year, \$262.00; other contributions to objects of Christian benevolence, about \$500.

Provision was made at a late Easter meeting for the establishment and support of a parish library.

One of our communicants, a graduate of the General Theological Seminary, was ordained in July last, and is now successfully laboring in an

important parish, and two others are now in college, in a course of preparation for the same holy office.

Our ladies' society, and the juvenile sewing society are both engaged with a laudable zeal in their benevolent labors.

Though there have been fewer accessions during the last, than any former year, we trust it has not been a less profitable year. Our services are well attended, and our Church harmonious, happy and flourishing. Our people come behind no other in kindness to their unworthy Rector and his family, and there is an increasing and praiseworthy liberality towards the various objects of Christian charity.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, RECTOR.

# RECAPITULATION.

| BAPTISMS. COMMUNICANTS. SCHOOLS.    |         |          |        |            |        |             |          |            |           |           |                   | REMARKS.   |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------|--------|------------|--------|-------------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|--|
|                                     | Adults. | Infants. | Total. | Confirmed. | Added. | Present No. | Burials. | Marriages. | Teachers. | Scholars. | Vols. in Library. |  |
| St. James' Church, Woonsocket       | 15      | 13       | 28     | 16         | 34     | 60          | 8        | 9          | 18        | 120       | 300               | * The Church of Nativity, Chepachet, and Emmanuel Church, Manville, are des- |
| * Church of the Nativity, Chepachet | ..      | ..       | ..     | ..         | ..     | ..          | ..       | ..         | ..        | ..        | ..                | tute of pastors; from these  |
| * Emmanuel Church, Manville         | ..      | ..       | ..     | ..         | ..     | ..          | ..       | ..         | ..        | ..        | ..                | no reports were received.  |
| Christ                              | ..      | ..       | ..     | ..         | ..     | 42          | 6        | 2          | 8         | 60        | 270               |  |
| St. Paul's                          | ..      | ..       | 30     | 18         | ..     | 143         | 6        | 11         | 25        | 130       | 400               |  |
| St. John's                          | 6       | 9        | 15     | ..         | 12     | 190         | 10       | 13         | ..        | 230       | 450               |  |
| Grace                               | 13      | 9        | 22     | 21         | 37     | 256         | 10       | 10         | 37        | 210       | 563               |  |
| + St. Stephen's                     | ..      | ..       | 7      | ..         | ..     | 18          | ..       | ..         | 14        | 87        | 300               | + These are Churches but   |
| St. Mark's                          | ..      | 7        | 7      | ..         | ..     | 112         | 10       | 3          | 32        | 130       | 300               | very recently organized.   |
| St. Michael's                       | ..      | 7        | 8      | 7          | 10     | 286         | 7        | 3          | 32        | 170       | 400               |  |
| St. Paul's                          | 1       | 1        | 2      | 1          | 1      | 24          | ..       | ..         | 4         | 15        | ..                |  |
| Zion                                | 17      | 4        | 21     | 14         | 31     | 150         | 7        | 3          | 26        | 276       | 500               |  |
| Trinity                             | 2       | 20       | 22     | 7          | 8      | 130         | 14       | 2          | 17        | 164       | 600               |  |
| St. Matthew's                       | 2       | 2        | 4      | ..         | 3      | 118         | 3        | 1          | 14        | 111       | 300               |  |
| Christ                              | 4       | 1        | 5      | ..         | ..     | 6           | ..       | ..         | ..        | ..        | ..                |  |
| + Ch. of the Ascension, Wakefield   | 5       | ..       | ..     | ..         | 13     | 41          | 3        | ..         | 10        | 25        | 75                |  |
| St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill       | ..      | ..       | ..     | 8          | ..     | 23          | 3        | 1          | 8         | 25        | 75                |  |
| St. Peter's                         | 4       | 3        | 7      | 1          | 3      | 23          | 3        | 2          | 10        | 66        | 217               |  |
| St. Paul's                          | ..      | ..       | ..     | 4          | 1      | 28          | 5        | 1          | 10        | 35        | 324               |  |
| St. Luke's                          | 1       | ..       | 1      | ..         | ..     | 18          | ..       | ..         | ..        | ..        | ..                |  |

## APPENDIX D.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The undersigned, members of the Board of Education, respectfully present the following as their annual report :—

Amount received into the treasury of the Board, agreeably to the report of the Treasurer, herewith transmitted, is \$325 55; and the amount paid out \$302 14, besides three scholarships which have been paid directly to the beneficiaries, without passing through the hands of the Treasurer, and therefore are not included in the above. Mr. George M. Randall, for four years a beneficiary of the Grace Church scholarship, was ordained in July last, and is now successfully engaged in an important field of labor.

There are at present *seven* beneficiaries of the Board; two scholarships are vacant. Thomas Fales, A. B. is the beneficiary of St. John's Church scholarship, and is pursuing his studies at the General Theological Seminary, New York. Edward Brown is the beneficiary of St. Michael's scholarship, and is a member of Washington College, Hartford. James Malchakey is the beneficiary of Zion Church scholarship, and is also at Washington College. Sanford Horton is a beneficiary of one of the Grace Church scholarships; and Baylies P. Talbot, Charles R. Fisher, and George Slattery, the two former at Washington College, and the latter at the Academy in Westerly, are the general beneficiaries of the Board.

The Board would commend to the notice and imitation of the Convention, and other Churches, the noble example of the congregation of Grace Church, Providence, who with a most commendable liberality, have founded three scholarships. Would all our Churches but manifest the same spirit, we should continually have a class of pious young men in training for the ministry, abundantly sufficient to supply the great and increasing necessities of the Church.

The present liabilities of the Board are, due to Baylies P. Talbot, \$37 50 and to George Slattery, \$37 50, to meet which there is a balance in the treasury of \$23 41; due from Christ Church Westerly, \$12 50, and from St. Paul's Church, Wickford, \$5, leaving a deficiency to meet the present liabilities of the Board, of \$34 09. This deficiency was occasioned by a misunderstanding of the Board, respecting a supposed pledge by a gentleman of an amount more than sufficient to cover the said deficiency, and which the gentleman says was not designed to have been made by him.

As the young gentlemen to whom this money is due, are in pressing need of the sum, the Board would recommend, that a contribution be taken up, among the members of the Convention, in order to the payment of the same.

|                     |   |                                |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| N. B. CROCKER,      | } | <i>Board of<br/>Education.</i> |
| GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, |   |                                |
| WM. G. GODDARD,     |   |                                |

June 12, 1839.



DR. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, *Treasurer, in account with*  
*the Board of Education.* CR.

| 1838.                              | \$ C.    | 1838.                                   | \$ C.    |
|------------------------------------|----------|---|----------|
| July 3. To paying James Malchakey, | 37 50    | June 12. By bal. of old acct.           | 12 05    |
| Sept. 20. To do. C. R. Fisher,     | 75 .     | " " By cash rec'd of                    |          |
| Dec. 10. To do. G. Slattery,       | 37 50    | Rev. F. Peck,                           | 11       |
| " 31. To do. J. Malchakey,         | 37 50    | July 3. By do. of J. H. Gilbert,        | 37 50    |
| 1839.                              |          | Aug. 15. By do. of Rev. H.              |          |
| Jan. 2. To do. B. P. Talbot,       | 37 50    | Waterman,                               | 5        |
| April 1. To do. C. R. Fisher,      | 37 50    | Sept. 20. By do. of Rev. J. W.          |          |
| June 10. To do. J. Malchakey,      | 37 50    | Cooke,                                  | 37 50    |
| To do. for postage,                | 2 14     | " " By do. W. G. Goddard,               | 10       |
| To balance in Treasury,            | 23 41    | Dec. 6. By do. Rev. H. Waterman,        | 5        |
|                                    |          | " 7. By do. Grace Church,               |          |
|                                    |          | Providence,                             | 50       |
|                                    |          | " 8. By do. late Rev. E. Munroe,        | 5        |
|                                    |          | " 10. By do. Christ Church,             |          |
|                                    |          | Westerly,                               | 12 50    |
|                                    |          | " 12. By do. St. Paul's Ch.             |          |
|                                    |          | Pawtucket,                              | 25       |
|                                    |          | " 31. By do. St. Mark's Church, Warren, | 25       |
|                                    |          | 1839.                                   |          |
|                                    |          | March 7. By do. Rev. H. Waterman,       | 5        |
|                                    |          | " " By do. Zion Church,                 |          |
|                                    |          | (scholarship)                           | 75       |
|                                    |          | June 11. By do. Christ Church,          |          |
|                                    |          | Lonsdale,                               | 10       |
|                                    |          |   |          |
|                                    | \$325 55 |   | \$325 55 |

Besides the above, the scholarship of St. John's Church, and Grace Church, Providence, and of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, have been paid directly to their respective beneficiaries, without passing through the hands of the Treasurer, and therefore are not included in the above account.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, *Treasurer.*

The following pledges were made to the Board of Education, for the next Conventional year, to be paid semi-annually, viz.

|                      |   |              |                |               |      |
|----------------------|---|--------------|----------------|---------------|------|
| St. John's Ch. Prov. | 2 | scholarships | Paul's         | " Pawtucket,  | \$25 |
| Grace                | " | " 3          | James's        | " Woonsocket, | \$15 |
| Michael's            | " | Brist. 1     | Christ         | " Westerly,   | \$20 |
| Mark's               | " | War. 1       | W. G. Goddard, |               | \$15 |
| Zion                 | " | Newp. 1      |                |               |      |



## APPENDIX E.

## REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The committee of Finance report, that the sum required to meet the current expenses of the Convention for the year, in printing the Journal, &c. will be about eighty dollars, which amount they recommend should be assessed among the several Churches, as follows:—

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| St. John's, Providence,     | \$9 |
| Grace Church, do.           | 9   |
| St. Stephen's, do.          | 6   |
| Trinity, Newport,           | 7   |
| Zion, do.                   | 7   |
| St. Paul's, Pawtucket,      | 5   |
| St. Michael's, Bristol,     | 6   |
| St. Mark's, Warren,         | 5   |
| Christ Church, Lonsdale,    | 4   |
| St. James's, Woonsocket,    | 4   |
| Christ Church, Westerly,    | 4   |
| St. Paul's, Portsmouth,     | 2   |
| Emmanuel, Manville,         | 0   |
| St. Luke's, East-Greenwich, | 3   |
| St. Paul's, Wickford,       | 2   |
| St. Paul's, Tower Hill,     | 2   |
| St. Peter's, Kingston,      | 2   |
| Ascension, Wakefield,       | 2   |

The committee recommend the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That the delegates from the several Churches now pay the Treasurer their several assessments.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY,  
S. T. NORTHAM,  
ALEXANDER JONES.

*Providence, June 11, 1839*

## APPENDIX F.

## REPORT ON MISSIONS.

The committee on "Domestic Missionary Operations within the State," respectfully present the following report :—

In discharging the duty committed to them, they would solicit the indulgence of this Convention in regard to the length to which their remarks may be extended, and the freedom with which their sentiments are expressed, as well as any imperfection or inaccuracy in their statements. The importance justly attached to the missionary cause, and the peculiar crisis which at present marks its history, must furnish their apology for a somewhat prolonged discussion, while to the haste with which their report was necessarily drawn up, amidst the press of Conventional business, must be imputed its imperfect exhibition of the subject. Still their sincere intention is to invest their report with that character of truth, intelligence and Christian kindness, which this body may reasonably expect at their hands.

In the last report made on this subject, by a committee of the Convention, it was stated that "the latitude allowed by the language of the resolution appointing them to the duty, would authorize a wide survey of the subject." Accordingly, there was very happily embodied in their report, a review of missionary operations within the State for more than a century. In the following remarks, your committee would revert briefly to the facts presented in the former report, continue the history down through the two years which have since elapsed, add some considerations on the general subject of missionary operations, and conclude with a recommendation to this Convention, on the subject of the farther prosecution of this cause.

In the former report, the origin and establishment of the Church in this State are traced to a voluntary association of the friends of missions, in England. The venerable "Society for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts," originated with two distinguished laymen, whose labors, prayers and contributions, led to the organization of this excellent Society. During the first twenty years of the missionary efforts of this Society to establish the Gospel among us, *four parishes* were formed, viz. in Newport, Narragansett, Bristol, and Providence, successively. In Newport, however, a parish had been previously organized, and a Church already built, and it was an application on their part to this Society, which brought the first missionary here.

About one hundred years then passed, within which not a single parish was added to the number. Subsequently to the year 1815, a Church was gathered in Pawtucket by the instrumentality of two distinguished

laymen. Three years subsequently, a new Church was built by the exertions of Rev. Mr. Burge, of Wickford, at Tower Hill. At this period, a State Missionary Society was formed, under very favorable auspices, having a resident Bishop in the State, whose pious love for the Church, and zeal for missions, are beyond question. The next nine years passed, however, without the addition of a single parish; and the report states, that during the entire existence of this Missionary Society, "it would be difficult to trace the faintest shadow of benefit resulting to any people, place, or person, from the Rhode-Island State Missionary Society." Subsequently to the establishment of the Church in Pawtucket, a new parish was successfully formed at Warren, under the patronage of the Bishop, and the agency of his then assistant, the present Rector of St. Michael's. The next Church added, by the exertions of a few laymen, was that of Grace Church, Providence, in 1828.

The report goes on to state, that there succeeded to this slow progress of the Church a new order of things. This was the era of the Rhode-Island Clerical Convocation, which was begun by a voluntary association of clergymen, with the approbation of the Bishop. Under this organization, the Clergy became personally responsible for a 'pledged sum in support of the domestic missionary cause, which sum has been usually furnished them by voluntary associations within their respective parishes. The history of the progress of the Church for the next *five years*, shews an increase of *ten new parishes*, besides *three others* within or near the State, which were either nearly organized, or raised from a depressed and languishing state, to one of comparative prosperity and permanency. Accompanying this outward prosperity, there was the infinitely greater divine blessing of the conversion, (in the judgment of charity,) of nearly one thousand souls.

The peculiar arrangements of this missionary body are the following, viz. the pledges of the Clergy, the parish associations to raise moneys for known and specific missions, the frequent meetings of the Clergy in counsel, their performing in an assembled body the duties usually committed to single agents, the common bond which is thus formed throughout the State among the Clergy and laity, the constant diffusion of information respecting the missionary stations, and, above all, the close connexion which is thus kept alive between the missionary work, and the spirit of piety, by means of the devotional exercises of the Convocation. During the above period, the income of this Society was gradually increased to an average of about \$2000 per annum. This sum is raised in such a manner as to inspire confidence in contracting with Missionaries to supply new stations, and to anticipate the operations of the ensuing year without a reasonable fear of disappointment; and at the same time the contributions are entirely voluntary, and relieve the Society from the unpleasant task of appealing for assistance to those members of our Church who are either indifferent or opposed to missions.

Such are the features of a system of missionary operations which has been growing up to maturity in one continual course of success, and with the warm attachment and respect of the great mass of the people of Rhode-Island. The cause of missions, under the conduct of the Convocation, has continued to advance during the last two years. Two new Churches have been organized, one in Wakefield, and the other in Providence, while the sums contributed have, amidst some discouragements, exceeded those of any former year. The number of parishes is, at present, nineteen, fifteen of which are supplied with ministers; and the remaining four, viz. Manville, Kingston, and the united parishes of Tower Hill and Wakefield, are vacant.

Notwithstanding the prosperity and harmony which have happily marked the history of this Society, some differences of opinion have always existed respecting minor details, and forms of proceeding; but we have a sure pledge, that if the members differ, it shall be without discord, and that mutual concessions shall be made to secure the general harmony, whenever it can be done without a surrender of principle.

We now approach an interesting and delicate branch of our report. The difference of opinion here alluded to, opens the whole range of the missionary subject, and especially the subject of the comparative efficiency of associations that are of a voluntary character, and those which sustain an official connexion with the ecclesiastical authority. Your committee, however, do not deem it necessary to discuss this abstract question, inasmuch as the form of an association, strictly voluntary, has not yet been resorted to, neither is likely to be, in the missionary operations of this State. The only question to be agitated relates to the comparative efficiency of a missionary society organized like the present Convocation, having the approbation of the Bishop, and the virtual concurrence of the Clergy and laity, in their individual capacities, and the same forms of organization, having an official connexion with the Convention, as well as with the Bishop. Here, it will be perceived, the question is reduced within a narrow limit, and appears to your committee to be, by no means, one of vital importance. Let us proceed, however, to take a view of the comparative efficiency of the two methods of proceeding.

And here your committee would remark, that had the judgment of the Church been expressed, and its experience on the subject been found to be in favor of either of the two modes of action, exclusively, there would be no room for difference of opinion. But, as your committee apprehend, it is not so. In support of this remark, it will not, we hope, be deemed obtrusive to present certain facts in the history of the Church, which have occurred to their recollection, and which have a bearing on both sides of the subject.

On the one hand, the Church in the apostolic age was the official almoner of the temporal benefactions of her members, and had the Church in



subsequent ages been imbued with the apostolic spirit, the same practice would have generally prevailed. But, in the absence of such a pervading spirit of piety, the contrary practice has, for the most part, obtained. Happily, however, there has been one eminent example of something like the primitive spirit of the Church; in that of the "Moravians," or "United Brethren;" whose zealous and self-sacrificing labors in the cause of missions, have been crowned with almost apostolic success. The example of our own Church in General Convention is another instance of ecclesiastical legislation on the subject of missions. This experiment, however, is considered by your committee as one of too recent and untried a character to carry with it any thing more than the force of a theoretical example.

Another instance of ecclesiastical legislation on this subject, is that of the Convention of New-York. The efficiency of this association, however, furnishes little encouragement as a precedent, having never, it is believed, until quite recently, with its numerous Clergy, and wealthy Churches, surpassed the contributions of half a dozen Churches in Rhode-Island; while the experiment of a State society in our own diocese, was an instance of total failure.

In the Church of England, on the other hand, every association for the promotion of the cause of missions, partakes of the voluntary character. The only forms in which the Church of England can ecclesiastically legislate, are in Parliament and in Convocation. The former is the official assembly of the Clergy and laity of the Church of England, and the latter that of the Clergy alone. But in neither of these ecclesiastical modes has that Church ever attempted to legislate on missions. On the contrary, the Clergy and laity, as individuals, have been permitted to associate for this purpose, according to their private judgments. Examples of this may be seen in the Society for the promotion of the Gospel in foreign parts, and several others of a similar character. Of these, one is the "Church Missionary Society," and others, more recent in date, are the "Pastoral-aid," and the "Church Pastoral-aid" Societies. The history of these last is instructive, on this part of our subject. The "Pastoral-aid Society" was instituted a few years since, for the purpose of supplying the great want of gospel ministrations in the Church, and checking the rapid inroads of Popery and Dissent upon the Episcopal population; and its exertions have been crowned with eminent success. It is organized under the Presidency of a layman, and with the common patronage of individual Bishops and other Clergy and laymen. This Society was deemed by some members of the Church of England as too exclusively voluntary in its form of organization, and hence arose the other, the "*Church Pastoral-aid Society*," with the express view of taking the place of the former and doing its work of love in a more regular manner. But the latter Society, after all, with the Bishops and Archbishops as its officers, *ex officio*, and thus clothed with the whole Episcopal authority of the Church, was found



to possess no higher pretensions than that of a voluntary society; and in point of fact, while both societies continue in simultaneous operation, the former is the more efficient, and the more liberally patronized of the two.

But the patience of this body may be exhausted by a more extensive examination of precedents on this subject, and the circumstances do not call upon the committee to present it in an argumentative point of view. These facts are thrown out chiefly to assist others in forming conclusions upon the subject at large, as well as to shew that there are reasons and precedents of a weighty character in favor of each of these forms of missionary action.

Thus there appears to be two modes, as has been recently remarked by one of our Bishops, in which the Church may act upon this and other enterprises of a benevolent character—the direct and the indirect. In the one, the Church acts by her Bishops and other Clergy, and laity assembled in Convention. In the other, she gives her countenance and mutual sanction to voluntary and not organized societies.

To these, may be, however, added a third mode, viz. that of associations of a mixed nature, which have the express authority of the Bishop, and the implied sanction of the Convention. The latter case is that of the Missionary Society of Rhode-Island, and the only difference of opinion that exists here, relates to the comparative propriety and expediency of associating under the sanction of the Bishop alone, and associating under the combined authority of the Bishop and Convention. As before remarked, your committee do not consider this as a question of very high moment, and they are happy to announce that the Clergy of the Convocation have cheerfully agreed to harmonize their action, by adopting the latter of the two forms of voluntary association. Your committee have conferred with a committee appointed on the part of the Convocation, by whom they are authorized to make this statement: and to give their approbation to an official connexion between the Convention and the missionary work, as at present conducted by the Convocation. Hence your committee propose the following scheme for the consideration of this body, viz. That this Convention do appoint the Clergy of this State a Board for the purpose of conducting our domestic missions, still maintaining, however, as a condition of membership of this Board, the same conditions required for membership of the Rhode-Island Clerical Convocation. This plan, it is understood by your committee, is generally acceptable to the Clergy, and will prove, we doubt not, equally so to the Church throughout the State.

Your committee, therefore, propose to the Convention the adoption of the following Canon: Be it enacted by this Convention, that a Board for conducting missions within the State, be appointed, to consist of such of the Clergy as shall pledge themselves to pay into the Treasury of this Board a sum equal to one tenth of their respective salaries, and that they report annually to the Convention their proceedings, together with an

account of their receipts and expenditures. The Bishop of the diocese shall be, *ex officio*, the President of the Board, and no appointment of missionaries shall be made by the Board, without his approbation. The Treasurer of this Board shall be a layman of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State.

Signed,

JOHN WEST,  
ALEXANDER H. VINTON.

ERRATUM.—The Parochial Report from the Rector of St. James's Church, Woonsocket, having been inadvertently omitted in its proper place, is here subjoined.

### ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, WOONSOCKET.

To this parish, the past year has been one of gratifying prosperity. For several months, indeed, the Rector was compelled by ill health, to suspend his parochial labors; but was enabled, by God's blessing, to resume them in the autumn; a mercy of which he cannot resist making this public and grateful mention. In his absence, the services of the desk and pulpit were very acceptably supplied by the Rev. Henry M. Davis. Since the last report, our congregation has largely increased, so that the Church is now well filled. But that which chiefly awakens our gratitude, and on which we build our hopes of becoming a fruitful and spreading vine, is the degree of spiritual flavor which we have been permitted to witness and enjoy. Never since the organization of the parish, has there been a wider and more solemn attention to the subject of the great salvation, than during the past conventional year. The "demonstration of the Spirit" has been recognized in our midst, not only in the disturbed slumbers of the careless, but in the warmer breathings of the Christian after growth and usefulness. At the last visitation of the Bishop, on the 29th of November last, "the laying on of hands" was administered to *sixteen* persons; and for the ensuing administration of that rite, which is expected to take place soon, there will probably be some *twenty-five* persons.

On the 1st of January last, the plan of systematic charity was introduced in the congregation; and that plan, it is believed, has been faithfully prosecuted on the part of several families and individuals. Its operation has, thus far, been simple, easy and efficient. Its effect has been to double our contributions for missionary and other benevolent purposes.

The Sunday school numbers about 120 scholars and 18 teachers. The average attendance of pupils is from 85 to 95. We have reason to hope that several of the teachers and scholars have sought and found, during the past year, reconciliation with God. The practice of monthly contributions, for the spread of the gospel, has been continued among them. The amount of their first year's offerings was upwards of *sixteen* dollars. There are 300 volumes in the library. The efforts of the ladies' sewing circle also deserve an honorable record. They have persevered in their "assembling together" every fortnight; and their last year's labors produced the sum of *seventy-five* dollars, an amount smaller than that raised the preceding year: may their diligence for the *current* year more than redeem the deficiency.

In conclusion, a retrospect of the progress and mercies of another year inspires the acknowledgment, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

The parish record gives the following statistics: Baptisms—infants, 13, adults, 15—total, 28; marriages, 9; funerals, 8; confirmed, 16; communicants added, 34; present number, 60.

H. WATERMAN, RECTOR.



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H. WATERMAN, RECTOR.





# JOURNAL

OF THE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF

**The Protestant Episcopal Church**

IN

**RHODE ISLAND,**

HELD IN

**St. Paul's Church, North Providence,**

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, A. D. 1840.

---

BOSTON:

JAMES B. DOW,

OFFICE OF THE CHRISTIAN WITNESS.

1840.

PRESS OF  
WILLIAM A. HALL & CO.  
Boston.

## LIST OF THE CLERGY

OF THE

### Protestant Episcopal Church of Rhode Island.

---

- Rev. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.
- Rev. LEMUEL BURGE, residing at Wickford.
- Rev. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.
- Rev. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren.
- Rev. GEORGE LEEDS, Rector elect of St. Stephen's Church, Providence.
- Rev. WM. HENRY MOORE, Deacon, Minister of St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich.
- Rev. WM. H. NEWMAN, Rector of the Church of the Ascension, Wakefield, and St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill.
- Rev. ROBERT E. NORTHAM, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.
- Rev. SAMUEL PENNY, Jr. Rector of Emanuel Church, Manville.
- Rev. JOHN H. ROUSE, officiating at St. Stephen's Church, Providence, and Rector elect St. Paul's Church, Wickford.
- Rev. JOHN SUDDARD, Rector of St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.
- Rev. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.
- Rev. CHARLES T. TAYLOR, Rector of Christ Church, Lonsdale.
- Rev. ALEXANDER H. VINTON, Rector of Grace Church, Providence.
- Rev. FRANCIS VINTON, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.
- Rev. HENRY WATERMAN, Rector of St. James's Church, Woonsocket.
- Rev. JOHN WEST, Rector of Zion Church, Newport.  
Rector of Christ Church, Westerly.

## LIST OF LAY DELEGATES,

*Certificates of whose election by their respective Churches were presented and approved.*

*St. John's Church, Providence.* Austin Gurney, William G. Goddard, Zachariah Allen, Wm. T. Dorrance.

*Grace Church, Providence.* Geo. S. Wardwell, Richmond Brownell, Alexander Duncan, Resolved Waterman.

*St. Stephen's Church, Providence.* Joseph S. Cook, Gideon Gurnett, Abiah Chandler, William Burrough.

*Trinity Church, Newport.* Edward N. Cox, Christopher G. Perry.

*Zion Church, Newport.* Samuel Whitehorne, John H. Gilliat, James Mumford, L. F. Gallop.

*St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.* John Burrington, Stephen Thomas, John G. Child, Albert C. Greene.

*St. Michael's Church, Bristol.* George Pearse, John G. Harding, Benjamin Hall, Billings Waldron.

*St. Mark's Church, Warren.* Seth Peck, Nathan M. Wheaton, George Wheaton, Anderson Martin.

*St. Paul's Church, North Providence.* Olney Whipple, Albert C. Jenks, David Lefavor, Barney Merry.

*St. James's Church, Woonsocket.* Samuel Greene, William Booth, John B. Walker, David Daniels.

*Christ Church, Westerly.* Lyndon Taylor, Stephen Smith, Jr. George D. Cross, Jesse L. Morse.

*St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich.* David Pinniger, John G. Ladd.

*St. Paul's Church, North Kingston.* Wm. A. Shaw, Gideon Freeborn, B. P. Bates, Allen M. Thomas.

*Church of the Ascension, Wakefield.* John Robinson, Elisha Watson, Jr. Albert Robinson.

*Christ Church, Lonsdale.* Warren Cooke, Leonard M. Blodget, James M. Carpenter, John L. Cooke.

NOTE. — St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill, St. Peter's Church, Kingston, St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown, and Emanuel Church, Manville, were not represented by the laity.



## JOURNAL.

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{ *St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket, N. Providence,*  
{ *Tuesday, June 9, 1840.*

THIS being the day appointed by the Constitution for the annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode Island, it assembled in St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket.

The morning prayer was conducted by Rev. J. H. Rouse and Rev. George Leeds, after which the semi-centennial Convention sermon was preached by Rev. Henry Waterman.

The holy communion was then administered by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold, assisted by Rev. Messrs. Rouse and Leeds.

After the divine service, the Convention proceeded to organize, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold in the chair.

The Rev. James Pratt, Secretary of Convention last year, was chosen Secretary *pro tem*.

The roll was then called, and the following clergymen answered to their names, and took their seats, viz. :

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Rev. John Bristed,     | Rev. Samuel Penny, Jr. |
| “ Lemuel Burge,        | “ John H. Rouse,       |
| “ N. B. Crocker, D. D. | “ George Taft,         |
| “ George W. Hathaway,  | “ Alexander H. Vinton, |
| “ William H. Newman,   | “ Francis Vinton,      |
| “ Robert E. Northam,   | “ Henry Waterman.      |

The following lay Delegates answered to their names, and took their seats :

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Edward N. Cox,        | Olney Whipple,      |
| Christopher G. Perry, | Albert C. Jenks,    |
| John Burrington,      | Leonard M. Blodget, |
| George Pearce,        | James M. Carpenter, |
| John G. Harding,      | John L. Cooke,      |
| Billings Waldron,     | Samuel Greene,      |
| Nathan M. Wheaton,    | Wm. Booth,          |
| George Wheaton,       | John B. Walker,     |
| Joseph S. Cooke,      | David Daniels,      |
| Gideon Gurnett,       | David Pinniger,     |
| Abiah Chandler,       | John Robinson,      |
| Austin Gurney,        | Lyndon Taylor,      |
| Wm. G. Goddard,       | Stephen Smith, Jr.  |
| William T. Dorrance,  | Albert Robinson,    |
| George S. Wardwell,   | Wm. A. Shaw,        |
| Richmond Brownell,    | Gideon Freeborn,    |
| Alexander Duncan,     | A. M. Thomas.       |
| Resolved Waterman,    |                     |

Convention then adjourned to half past 2 o'clock, P. M.

*Half past 2 o'clock, P. M.*

Convention met, pursuant to adjournment.

The roll was called, and the Convention proceeded to elect by ballot a Secretary for the conventional year ensuing.

Whereupon Rev. Francis Vinton was elected Secretary, and Mr. Daniel Wilkinson was invited to be his assistant.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That visiting clergy present be invited to the sittings of the Convention.

Whereupon Rev. James Pratt and Rev. Sylvester Nash, of the Diocese of Maine, and Rev. George Leeds, of the Diocese of Massachusetts, took seats.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the Rules of Order of the last Convention be adopted as the Rules of Order of this Convention.

On nomination, the Convention proceeded to elect the following committees :

*On Unfinished Business.* Rev. Francis Vinton, George S. Wardwell.

*Finance.* Rev. George W. Hathaway, George S. Wardwell, Lyndon Taylor.

*To Revise Parochial Reports.* (By request of the Bishop,) Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. A. H. Vinton, Wm. G. Goddard.

The Committee on unfinished business reported that the Committee on revising Constitution, Canons, &c. should report to this Convention. Made the order of the day for to-morrow, after report from the Standing Boards.

On motion,

The report of Committee on Revising Parochial Reports was made the order of the day for to-morrow, at the opening of Convention in the afternoon.

On motion,

*Resolved,* That the Convention now proceed to the election of the Standing Boards and Treasurer, Standing Committee and Delegates to General Convention.

Moved, that a committee of nomination be appointed. Rejected.

Whereupon the following officers were chosen on nomination :

*Board to superintend Sunday Schools.*

CLERGY.

Rev. Geo. W. Hathaway,  
Rev. Francis Vinton.

LAITY.

George S. Wardwell.

*Board of Theological Education.*

CLERGY.

Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D.  
Rev. George W. Hathaway.

LAITY.

William G. Goddard.

*Standing Committee.*

| CLERGY.                   | LAITY.             |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. | George Mumford,    |
| Rev. George Taft,         | Resolved Waterman, |
| Rev. A. H. Vinton.        | Benjamin Cowell.   |

*Delegates to the General Convention.*

| CLERGY.                   | LAITY.               |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. | Edward S. Wilkinson, |
| Rev. A. H. Vinton,        | Benjamin Hall,       |
| Rev. George W. Hathaway,  | Samuel Whitehorne,   |
| Rev. John West.           | John B. Walker.      |

Lyndon Taylor, *Treasurer.*

Rev. Samuel Penny, Jr. was nominated and appointed to preach the next Convention sermon, and the Rev. Francis Vinton his substitute.

On motion,

*Resolved,* That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to Rev. Henry Waterman for his semi-centennial Convention sermon, and that a copy of the sermon be requested for publication.

Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. and Wm. G. Goddard, Esq. were appointed a Committee to execute the resolution.

On motion,

*Resolved,* That when this Convention rise, it shall be on Wednesday evening.

On motion,

*Resolved,* That this Convention meet for divine service to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

On motion,

*Resolved,* That a Committee be appointed to draft a history of the Church in Rhode Island, from its first establishment, to be presented at the next Convention.

The following were appointed the Committee :

CLERGY.

Rev. Francis Vinton,  
Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D.  
Rev. Wm. H. Newman.

LAITY.

John H. Gilliat,  
C. G. Perry, M. D.  
Wilkins Updike,  
Wm. T. Dorrance,  
George F. Usher.

*Resolved*, That the next annual Convention be holden in Trinity Church, Newport.

The Convention adjourned till to-morrow.

*Wednesday, June 10, 1840.*

The Convention met at 8 o'clock for divine service, after which addresses were delivered by Rev. R. E. Northam, and Rev. James Pratt, of the Diocese of Maine.

Delegates from Zion Church, Newport, Samuel Whitehorne and L. F. Gallop, M. D. appeared and took their seats.

Rev. John Suddard, Minister of St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown, appeared and took his seat.

The roll was called, and the minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and approved.

Rev. W. Van Zandt, of the Diocese of Western New York, took a seat in the Convention.

The Treasurer made a report, which was received and referred to the Committee on Finance, to be audited. (See Appendix A.)

The Board of Missions had leave to make their report immediately after the reading of the Parochial Reports.

The Board of Education made a report, which was received and ordered to be printed with the Journal. (See Appendix C.)

The Convention took a recess of ten minutes, during which a collection was taken up to supply a deficiency in the funds of the Board of Education.

The Convention was then called to order.

On motion,



*Resolved*, That the several churches be now called on for pledges for Theological Education for the ensuing year. Whereupon the following pledges were made :

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol,    | 1 scholarship, |
| St. John's Church, Providence,    | 1       "      |
| Grace Church,               "     | 3       "      |
| Trinity Church, Newport,          | 1       "      |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren,        | \$25,          |
| St. Paul's Church, N. Providence, | \$25,          |
| Christ Church, Westerly,          | \$12,          |
| John Henry Gilliat,               | 1 scholarship, |
| Wm. G. Goddard,                   | \$20,          |
| Joseph S. Cooke,                  | \$20,          |
| Alexander Duncan,                 | \$20.          |

The Board to superintend Sunday Schools made a report, which was received, and ordered to be printed with the Journal. (See Appendix F.)

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the Board on Sunday Schools report to the next Convention a plan for a Depository of Protestant Episcopal Sunday School Books, to be located in Providence.

The hour having arrived for the report of the Committee on the Constitution, Canons, &c. the Committee made their report, which was received, and read twice.

Whereupon, on motion,

*Resolved*, To take up and consider the Constitution by sections and articles ; which was accordingly done.

The Convention having considered, amended, and approved the first six articles, the Constitution was laid on the table, the hour of adjournment having arrived.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold left the chair for the remainder of the session.

Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. was then chosen President of the Convention, and took the chair.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rt. Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, and that the Treasurer pay him his expenses in attending this Convention.

On motion, for reasons stated, W. A. Shaw, M. D. and Stephen Smith, Jr. had leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

On motion, David Pinniger had leave of absence.

Whereupon, the Convention adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

*Afternoon Session, 2 o'clock.*

The Convention met, and was duly organized.

On motion, for reasons stated, Messrs. Edward N. Cox, C. G. Perry, M. D., L. F. Gallop, M. D., and Resolved Waterman had leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

The reading of the Parochial Reports was announced as the order of the day for this hour. Whereupon they were read, received, and ordered to be published with the Journal. (See Appendix G.)

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the Publishing Committee be authorized to receive from the Committee of Revising Parochial Reports such reports as may have been omitted, and to publish the same, and that the Secretary request the Wardens of such churches as are without pastors to forward the statistics of their respective churches.

A letter was received and read by the Secretary from the Committee of the Convention of the Eastern Diocese, on the Bishop's Fund, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Finance Committee made a report, estimating the annual expenditures and receipts of the Convention, which was received, and ordered to be printed with the Journal. (See Appendix D.)

Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Delegates from the several churches now pay to the Treasurer their several apportionments ; which was accordingly done.

The Board of Missions then made their first annual report, which was received, and ordered to be printed with the Journal. (See Appendix B.)

The Standing Committee made a report, which was received, and ordered to be printed with the Journal. (See Appendix E.)

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Constitution, Canons, &c. be continued, in order to report a standing order of business and Rules of Order to the next Convention.

The Finance Committee, to whom was referred the letter of the Committee of the Eastern Diocese on the Bishop's Fund, reported as follows :

The Finance Committee, to whom was referred the letter from the Committee on Bishop's Fund, showing that there is an amount due to the Bishop for arrearages of living for previous years, and that the proportion due from the Diocese of Rhode Island is one hundred and seventy-five dollars, supposing the same to be correct, recommend the adoption of the following resolution, to wit :

*Resolved*, That the several churches in this Diocese be requested to contribute and pay their contribution to the Treasurer of this Convention before the meeting of the next Convention, to discharge the arrearages due to the Bishop from the Diocese of Rhode Island.

Further *Resolved*, That if any surplus accrue from such collections over and above the amount due the Bishop, the Treasurer is hereby directed to pay the said surplus into the treasury of the Board of Missions in this Diocese.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary give notice to the several parishes of the passage of these resolutions.

(Signed,)

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, | } <i>Finance</i> |
| GEORGE S. WARDWELL, |                  |
| LYNDON TAYLOR,      |                  |

*Committee.*

The above report was received, and ordered to be printed with the Journal.

Whereupon the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

The Constitution as reported was then called up and further considered, amended and APPROVED.

Whereupon, on motion,

*Resolved*, That the Constitution, as approved, and the Canons, as reported, be laid on the table till next Convention, and be printed with the Journal. (See Appendix H.)

On nomination, the Secretary, Rev. Francis Vinton, Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. and Wm. G. Goddard, Esq. were chosen the Publishing Committee.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That one thousand copies of the Journal be printed and distributed to the several parishes in the proportion of their respective assessments.

On motion,

Unanimously *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be hereby tendered to the Rector and parish of St. Paul's Church, North Providence, for their hospitality and courtesy to the members of this Convention.

The following resolutions were offered, and unanimously adopted :

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God, in his wise providence, to take from this world the venerable Alexander Jones, for a long series of years the Treasurer of this Convention, and a lay Delegate from St. John's Church, Providence ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That, we lament the loss which we have sustained by the death of this sincere follower of Christ, and this valued associate in the counsels of the Church.

*Resolved*, That, while we cordially express our sense of his excellence as a Christian, and of his singular devotion to the interests of the Church, we desire to thank God for the good example of his servant, who, having finished his course in faith, now rests from his labors.

*Resolved*, As a farther expression of our respect for the character of the deceased, that these resolutions be entered on the Journals of this Convention.

After singing the 107th Psalm, and the benediction from the President, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

FRANCIS VINTON, *Secretary*.

NOTE.—The religious services were continued in the evening.



## Appendix.

# A.

## Dr. The Protestant Episcopal Church of Rhode Island in account with Lyndon Taylor, Treasurer. Cr.

|          |  |         |  |         |
|----------|--|---------|--|---------|
| 1839.    |  | 1839.   |  |         |
| June 12. | To cash paid for book for Treasurer's records, - - -   | 63      | By cash received of Alexander Jones, Esq. balance his account, - - - | 47      |
|          | "    "    Right Rev. Bishop Griswold, per order of Convention, - - -                                     | \$10 00 | By cash received of St. John's Church, Providence, - - -             | 9 00    |
|          | To cash paid Rev. James Pratt, for expenses to Providence, to attend to printing Journal for 1839, - - - | 4 00    | "    "    Grace Church, " - - -                                      | 9 00    |
|          | To cash paid for postage, - - -  | 10      | "    "    St. Stephen's Church, " - - -                              | 6 00    |
| Aug. 5.  | "    "    Hugh H. Brown, for printing Journal for 1839, - - -  | 74 00   | "    "    Trinity Church, Newport, - - -                             | 7 00    |
|          | To cash paid for postage, - - -  | 10      | "    "    Zion Church, " - - -                                       | 7 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket, - - -                        | 5 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    St. Michael's Church, Bristol, - - -                       | 6 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    St. Mark's Church, Warren, - - -                           | 5 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    Christ Church, Lonsdale, - - -                             | 4 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    St. James's Church, Woonsocket, - - -                      | 4 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    Christ Church, Westerly, - - -                             | 4 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, - - -                       | 2 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    St. Luke's Church, E. Greenwich, - - -                     | 3 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    St. Paul's Church, Wickford, - - -                         | 2 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill, - - -                       | 2 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    St. Peter's Church, Kingston, - - -                        | 2 00    |
|          |  |         | "    "    the Ascension Church, Wakefield, - - -                     | 2 00    |
|          |  |         | By balance to new account, - - -                                     | 9 36    |
|          |  |         |  | \$88 83 |

Westerly, June 9, 1840.

Errors excepted.

1840.  
June 9. To balance brought to new account, - - - \$9 36

(Signed,) LYNDON TAYLOR,  
Treasurer R. I. Episcopal Convention.

**B.****Report of the Board of Missions.**

AT your last Convention, the following Canon was adopted, to wit:

“Be it enacted, by this Convention, that a Board for conducting Missions within the State be appointed, to consist of such of the clergy as shall pledge themselves to pay into the treasury of this Board an annual sum, equal to at least one tenth of their respective salaries; and that they report annually to the Convention of their proceedings, together with an account of their receipts and expenditures. The Bishop of the Diocese shall be, *ex officio*, the President of the Board; and no appointment of missionaries shall be made by the Board without his approbation. The Treasurer of this Board shall be a layman of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State.”

In compliance with the above requisition, the undersigned, a Committee of your Board, with a full and humbling conviction that the cause in which we are embarked has not been prosecuted with the zeal and fidelity which its importance demands, and which He requires who would have us “count all things else but loss, and magnify himself in our bodies, whether by life or death,” beg leave respectfully to submit the following report of their proceedings the past year, together with a statement of their receipts and expenditures, and, by permission, would suggest a few thoughts in relation to what has been, and now is, the Rhode Island system of missionary operations.

As the Convention had not seen fit to say where, how, or when the Board should organize, soon after the adjournment several of the clergy, according to previous arrangements, came together, when it was ascertained that twelve were ready to become members of the Board by making the canonical pledge: whereupon we proceeded to elect a Secretary and President *pro tem.* upon a principle which we apprehend-

ed to be essential, if not to our very being, yet to our well-being, to wit, that we had a right to make laws for our own government. We set soberly to the work, and, aided by our past convocational experience of what would be requisite in a somewhat altered mode of existence, and loath to deviate from a course of proceeding which that experience had approved and recommended above all others, by the success which had attended and the blessing which followed it, we were enabled quickly to agree upon a system of rules and by-laws, which, with some modifications since received, we now have pleasure in submitting to your inspection. Our old Constitution, in substance, was adopted. We were henceforth to be designated by the name of the Missionary and not the Clerical Convocation of the Church in Rhode Island. The time of our annual meeting was changed from Easter to the second Tuesday in June. Our officers were to be a Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. No appropriation was to be made to any missionary until it had received the approbation of at least three fourths of the members present at a legal meeting.

Having agreed upon these and other rules, the Board was accordingly organized for the ensuing year, by the election of its constitutional officers. The pledges and appropriation that had been made at the Easter meeting of the Convocation, amounting to more than \$1500, were adopted by the Board.

At our next meeting, in July, the missionary code was completed. In October following, every clergyman in the State, with the exception of Dr. Wheaton, who was about to remove from the Diocese, belonged to your Board. Of the missionaries who began the year with us, only one has left the State, to wit, the Rev. Mr. Nash, who is successfully laboring at Saco, in the Diocese of Maine. The Rev. Mr. Penny has removed from Jamestown to Manville, and is now independent of the Board. The Rev. F. Vinton, soon after the rising of the Convention, resigned his charge of St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill, and its associate, the Church of the Ascension, Wakefield, and St. Peter's, Kingston, and accepted a call to St. Stephen's Church, Providence, where he remained, in the pay of the Board, until some time in April. He is now the minister of Trinity Church, Newport. The Rev. Mr. New-

man, from Ohio, is stationed at Tower Hill. St. Stephen's and St. Matthew's are temporarily supplied by the Rev. Messrs. Rouse and Suddard, the one from Connecticut, and the other from New Hampshire. East Greenwich alone is vacant. Measures are in train, however, which we trust will result in placing a competent man in that important church. But, although our missionary stations are thus, with one exception, for the present supplied, and well supplied, yet, in spite of a law requiring the excellent men we employ to remain at least one year in the same place, we find, from experience, that we have as much difficulty in retaining them as our churches have in holding their regularly instituted ministers. Our cause has sustained a loss, the past year, of no small magnitude, from this tendency to change.

When a man leaves us, he doubtless does it for reasons satisfactory to himself at the time. We have much cause to fear, however, that, in most cases, many more thoughts are given to the prospects of usefulness in the new field of labor, than to the decay and desolation likely to ensue, from his absence, to the old. We could, if this were a fitting place to do it, *so* refer you to a flock which the shepherd has left, as to touch your sensibilities. The Committee seriously apprehend that the practice, now so rife among the clergy, of abandoning fields of labor in which God had abundantly blessed them, will retard the spiritual growth of our churches; and we feel that it is in perfect keeping with the main subject of this Report to avow, as a general thing, our cordial reprobation of the practice, not merely because it has interfered with the progress of the Board, but because it is at war with the maturest opinions we have formed upon the subject. Our remonstrance may be the louder and stronger, for a reason that does not every where exist. We mean that the shepherds are not starved away from Rhode Island, nor have their spiritual watchings and toilings ever been in vain. On the contrary, had we not some reason to think that their very prosperity stimulates the avidity of foreigners to hire them away, we should hardly be excused for reminding them that they thus violate a first and foremost principle of morality, — the golden principle of doing as we would be done by. There are nine



ministers, according to the statement of the Treasurer, who, since the 10th of April, 1839, in different congregations, have been aided by the Board.\* The aggregate of our pecuniary receipts, up to Easter last, was \$1746 22, and our appropriations \$1743 80, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$2 42, as will appear by the Treasurer's report, in which the requisite specifications are given. The spiritual prosperity, be it more or less, with which our efforts have been crowned, the Parochial Reports will show. Had we received these reports in season to interweave the material facts, which doubtless they contain, we might have added interest to *this*.

So sensibly have we felt the want of precisely that sort of information, which our missionaries alone can give, that we hope they will be required in all future years to transmit their written statements to the Convention through the medium of this Committee.

And now, if, from a survey of the general summary of our doings, which we have thus given, a feeling of disappointment should be experienced by the Convention, the cause may be found in the imperfections of our materials for rendering the report what it ought to be. We think, however, from the knowledge we do possess, that the present condition of the missionary enterprise in Rhode Island affords abundant cause to thank God and take courage; and, by his help, your Board were resolved never to give back, until every inch of the moral wilderness around us has felt the renovating influence of spiritual culture. Here we might close, by commending the Board and their cause to your patronage and prayers. But as we have not trespassed upon your patience by long details, we hope to be indulged in a few additional remarks. We trust

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\* Amount paid Missionaries since the 10th April, 1839, viz.: Rev. Mr. Nash, \$449 46; Rev. Mr. Pratt, \$26 69, travelling expenses; Rev. Mr. Waterman, \$99 90, on account; Rev. Francis Vinton, \$428 97, for services at St. Stephen's; Rev. Mr. Northam, \$300, on account, and \$75 contributed by the ladies of St. John's Church towards a parsonage at Portsmouth, R. I.; Rev. Mr. Penny, \$100, on account; Rev. Mr. Janson, \$4 80, on old account; Rev. Mr. Suddard, \$71; Rev. Mr. Newman, \$112 50.

The Rev. Mr. Burge has resigned his charge of St. Paul's Church, Wickford: application has been made to the Board for aid, and a committee appointed to confer with the parish.

they will be deemed relevant, and so far important as they may tend to allay any remaining irritation, and to bind us fast in one spirit, that we may strive together for the faith of the gospel.

The clergy of Rhode Island now occupy, if not an eminence, yet a place from which they may advantageously look back and compare their past with their present position. We feel, and are quite willing to acknowledge, that the new organization gives us an advantage ; at the same time we understand the significance with which we are congratulated upon a return to the order and wholesome subordination to ecclesiastical authority which the Church prescribes.

As to these things, we claim to be as jealous as our neighbors ; and we must be permitted to say, because in justice to ourselves we are required to say, that, while we duly appreciate the opinions and motives of those in and out of the State, who, from the commencement of our convocational career, have frowned upon its missionary proceedings as irregular, that the charge does not appear to be based upon truth. We know that majorities, and sometimes whole communities, are honestly in the wrong. We admit that successful results do not indicate with certainty the wisdom, or validity, or safety of the means employed. But we do not know nor admit that we are justly liable to the reproach of irregularity, for having been guided by the dictates of a deliberate judgment, in a case for which the Church, in a general convention, had made no provision, either by canon or usage. We refer to the original association, in 1832, of the clergy of this State for the promotion of personal piety, and the extension of the Church within the limits of the State, without asking the sanction of the Convention. Now it is to be remembered that there was no law requiring this at our hands ; and as to the Convention, however controlling its authority in ecclesiastical matters, previous to positive enactment, the exercise of it, in a case like the present, would have been tyranny. That the Church itself is essentially a missionary body had not then been discovered, or rather this ancient principle had not been officially acknowledged and acted upon. We could not, therefore, at that time, as now, have the pleasure of conforming to settled rules, and of

emulating the wisdom and zeal with which the Anglo-American Church is prosecuting, under God, the stupendous work of illuminating and saving a world.

As to the dreams of those, *on the one hand*, who supposed that the Convocation ever had or could, with impunity, trench upon episcopal prerogative, we never attached the slightest importance to them. Though a voluntary association, we were then as responsible for the violation of ecclesiastical law as we now are. Besides, we never could tolerate such an implied impeachment of the vigilance of our Diocesan, than whom no man understands better his rights; and, when the order or interest of the Church require it, is more prompt to assert them; and it is difficult to comprehend the ground of the concern which others manifested, lest the Convocation should become an instrument of party, while it comprised at least nine twelfths of the clergy.

That the entire unanimity of feeling, and concert of opinion and action, in all matters of principle and policy, connected with the missionary work, which so long and so remarkably prevailed among us, should continue uninterrupted, could not, from the very constitution of our nature, be expected; and we frankly confess that some strong contentions arose, and “Barnabas and Paul departed asunder, one from another.” But to charge this to the system of voluntary associations, as an evil of magnitude sufficient to call for their suppression by Episcopal authority, would be as absurd as to object to the propagation of the gospel by human instrumentality, because John Mark occasioned a temporary rupture between two apostles; and while some went from us, because, doubtless, in the integrity of their hearts, they disapproved of the Convocation, it should be remembered that twenty times as many have been here seeking a place among us, because they approved of it.

And now, *on the other hand*, we are equally puzzled to perceive the strong reason why some were alarmed at the thought of connecting the Convention with the missionary cause; for it needed not to be concealed that there were those who viewed the project with jealousy, or, to say the least, considered it an experiment of very doubtful expediency. It was apprehended, perhaps, that if the Convocation surrendered the principle upon

which it was formed, and became the responsible agent of the Convention, our missionary energies would be cramped and the cause suffer. And, if we remember right, precedent was pleaded, and some reference had to a State Missionary Society in by-gone days, complete in its organization, with an admirable constitution, a *quantum sufficit* of auxiliaries, a small fund, &c. but it never did any thing. The answer may be found in a very humiliating question, Did anybody else do any thing in those days to promote a cause which is now so identified with the religion we profess, that to speak of an anti-missionary Christian would be a solecism in terms? Had the Church in these States at that time any adequate perception of its responsibility in this great matter? If a ray of light occasionally beamed upon her in her annual Conventions, it was but the harbinger of the morn that is now dawning. It is too true, that whenever, on those occasions, Churchmen busied themselves in the construction of such moral machinery, they too seldom remembered to invoke the power and grace of God to put it in motion.

Perhaps, again, it might have been supposed that, as the State Convention is not composed exclusively of those whose hearts glow with missionary zeal, therefore it was to be avoided as an instrument unfit to be employed in the prosecution of so holy a cause. Now here, while we admire the motive, we utterly repudiate the principle of setting up within the Church independent societies, on the ground of superior sanctity. We do not understand the congruity or see the compatibility of holding, by profession, the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace with a Church from which we deem the spirit of piety to have departed so entirely that we dare not entrust it with its appropriate and peculiar work, to wit, the propagation of the gospel.

In reference to the canon under which we are acting, perhaps some minds may be relieved of an honest scruple suggested by the example of England, as to the management of Christian Missions, if we state one or two facts. There the Church is so inextricably interwoven with the state, that it cannot, as here, act with facility and freedom, either in or out of Parliament, upon any benevolent subject. So necessarily



are civil matters involved with ecclesiastical, even in her provincial convocations, that she has derived little or no benefit from them in any period of her history. Whenever the Bishops and the clergy come together, it must be at the summons of the king, and while together it is for him to say whether they shall exercise the authority committed to them by Christ, and act as his ministers in things pertaining to the Church, or as members of the Commonwealth, and in that capacity provide ways and means to replenish the exchequer of his majesty. Hence the Church of England, as such, has not generally taken into her own hands the management of those great missionary movements which have done so much to signalize her name, and bless the world; and yet it is exceedingly remarkable that the Parliament of England gave birth to one of the oldest, most successful, richly endowed, and illustrious missionary societies in Christendom. Of its extraordinary efficiency, some approach to a correct opinion may be formed from the fact, that, when it began its operations in the American Colonies, it found but five churches; and, when compelled by the war of the revolution to close them, it left us with two hundred and fifty. The well-known story of the origin and early progress of the Episcopal communion in Rhode Island should render this the last Diocese in the Union to question the efficiency of missionary societies in connection with the Church.

Upon the whole, with our views of the unwieldy mass of political machinery which for centuries has been pressing upon the Anglican Church, we cannot but consider the formation, in 1701, of the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts" as constituting not only the brightest spot in parliamentary history, but as among the most remarkable interpositions of Divine Providence in behalf of the Church and the world. It should forever silence the loquacious zeal of those who would at all hazard sever the wheat from the tares, who would in effect abandon the Church of Christ, that they may prosecute to better effect his holy plans and purposes. The Convention will perceive that we are very much alive to the importance of the Canon which has given your Board its present organization. We view it as an act which has rendered the system of missionary operations among us as nearly complete as the conflicting opinions and passions of man will



ordinarily permit. Some will measure its perfections by the resemblance it bears to the arrangements of the General Convention, in relation to the work entrusted to your Board, and perhaps the chief point of difference will be seen to be an improvement. The Board which you have appointed for the management of missions within the State, consider it a matter of such vital importance, as involving such endless interests, and requiring, to its right management, the knowledge of so many facts, that we do not entrust it to subcommittees, but, gathering up and concentrating the light which each one can furnish, do it ourselves. We come together so often, that each one is kept quite familiar with the narrative of the whole concern. We hear the correspondence of the Board, rejoice in its success, weep together over its failures, and if, when we assemble, one has more sympathy for the lost than another, more of that intense solicitude for the souls of men, which arose to unutterable agony in the garden, it often happens, that, ere we separate, there settles upon each one of us, not indeed tongues of fire, but, what is better, there comes over us a spirit of love, which makes us ready to sell our possessions and goods for the furtherance of the gospel.

We have reason, therefore, to thank Him who orders events after the counsel of his own will, and, under God, to congratulate ourselves thus far upon the success of an experiment in moral chemistry never before tried. We mean an attempt to separate the strangely cohesive elements of a voluntary association, and so to recombine them by the admixture of a controlling agent, as neither to restrict the freedom, nor cramp the energies, nor chill the zeal, or in any way impair the devotion of the body to the all-engrossing cause which had originally drawn them together.

The charm of this happy experiment will be found in the act, that the Church, so far as the mode of doing the missionary work is concerned, now stands forth in her primitive attitude, and has become, what, in this respect, she was intended to be by her divine Head, at once the agent and medium of communicating spiritual light and salvation to the benighted and lost.

For the Committee,

N. B. CROCKER.

## C.

## Report of the Committee on Education.

THE undersigned, members of the Board of Education, would respectfully present the following as their annual report to the Convention :

Immediately after their election, they proceeded to organize ; and as the Convention, by their pledges, had placed at their disposal, independent of the several scholarships pledged, an amount only sufficient for the support of a single beneficiary, they were obliged to relinquish *two* of their *three* beneficiaries they had been sustaining the previous year. As Charles R. Fisher was the beneficiary first adopted, he was considered as entitled to a priority of claim, and Baylies P. Talbot and George Slattery, adopted beneficiaries afterwards, were relinquished, though at the same time recommended to those who had the privilege of nominating to the vacant scholarship.

The present beneficiaries of the Board are Charles R. Fisher, beneficiary of the Board, and a member of the present sophomore class of Washington College, Hartford ; Edward Brown, beneficiary of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, and a member of the senior class of Washington College ; Thomas Fales, beneficiary of St. John's Church, Providence, a member of the senior class of the Theological Seminary, N. York, and to be ordained in a few weeks, and become assistant minister of St. Michael's Church, Bristol ; Sanford Horton and Baylies P. Talbot, beneficiaries of Grace Church, Providence, one a member of the freshman, and the other of the sophomore class, Washington College ; James Mulchahey, beneficiary of St. Mark's Church, Warren, a member of the sophomore class, Washington College.

One of the scholarships pledged by Grace Church, Providence, has remained vacant during the year, owing to a neglect on the part of said church in nominating a third beneficiary, as also the scholarship of Zion Church for the same cause.

The Board regret to be under the necessity of again reporting a deficiency of funds at their disposal to meet the engagement of the Board to their beneficiary, Charles R. Fisher, there being now due to him the sum of fifty-three dollars and seventy-five cents, and to meet which there is but twenty-six dollars and thirty-two cents in the treasury, leaving a balance due of twenty-seven dollars and forty-three cents over and above the present means of the Board to pay. Under these circumstances the Board are constrained to appeal to the liberality of the Convention, not only to be more liberal in their pledges for the ensuing year, but enable them to meet the present deficiency.

N. B. CROCKER,  
GEO. W. HATHAWAY,  
WM. G. GODDARD.



## D.

## Report of the Committee on Finance.

THE Committee on Finance report, that the sum required to meet the current expenses of the Convention for the year, in printing the Journal, &c. will be about one hundred dollars; which amount should be apportioned among the several churches as follows :

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| St. John's Church, Providence, - - - - - | \$12 00 |
| Grace " " - - - - -                      | 12 00   |
| St. Stephen's " " - - - - -              | 6 00    |
| Trinity " Newport, - - - - -             | 10 00   |
| Zion " " - - - - -                       | 10 00   |
| St. Paul's " North Providence, - - - - - | 7 00    |
| St. Michael's " Bristol, - - - - -       | 8 00    |
| St. Mark's " Warren, - - - - -           | 7 00    |
| Christ " Lonsdale, - - - - -             | 5 00    |
| St. James's " Woonsocket, - - - - -      | 5 00    |
| Christ " Westerly, - - - - -             | 5 00    |
| St. Paul's " Portsmouth, - - - - -       | 2 00    |
| Emanuel " Manville, - - - - -            | 2 00    |
| St. Luke's " East Greenwich, - - - - -   | 2 00    |
| St. Paul's " Wickford, - - - - -         | 2 00    |
| St. Paul's " Tower Hill, - - - - -       | 2 00    |
| St. Peter's " Kingston, - - - - -        | 1 00    |
| Ascension, " Wakefield, - - - - -        | 2 00    |
| St. Matthew's " Jamestown, - - - - -     | 1 00    |
| <hr/>                                    |         |
| \$100 00                                 |         |

The Committee recommend the following :

*Resolved*, That the Delegates from the several churches now pay the Treasurer their several assessments.

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, | } Committee |
| GEORGE S. WARDWELL, |             |
| LYNDON TAYLOR,      |             |
|                     | on          |
|                     | Finance.    |

North Providence, June 10th, 1840.



**E.****Report of the Standing Committee.**

*Copy of the Proceedings of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Rhode Island, for the year ending June, 1840.*

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, June 24th, 1839, Rev. Dr. Crocker was chosen President for the year ensuing, and Benjamin Cowell Secretary. At this meeting, the application of Mr. James H. Carpenter, to be recommended as a candidate for orders, is received; and the testimonials produced being deemed satisfactory, it is voted he be recommended to the Bishop as a candidate for orders accordingly, and that a certificate be granted.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, October 7th, 1839, the application of Mr. James H. Eames for a recommendation to the Bishop as a candidate for orders is received, and laid before the Committee; and his testimonials being deemed satisfactory, it is voted he be recommended accordingly, and that a certificate be granted.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, October 8th, 1839, the application of the Rev. Samuel Penny for Priests' orders is received, and laid before the Committee; and his title and other testimonials being duly considered and found satisfactory to the Committee, it is voted that he be recommended to the Bishop for ordination, as Priest in the Protestant Episcopal Church, and that a certificate be granted accordingly.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, December 17th, 1839, the application of the Rev. Thomas Gardner Salter for a recommendation for Priests' orders is received, and laid before the Committee for consideration; and his title and other testimonials being satisfactory, it is voted that he be recommended to the Bishop for ordination, as Priest, and that a certificate thereof be granted.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, March 16th, 1840, a communication and resolution of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of South Carolina, communicating the desire of

the Protestant Episcopal Church in that Diocese, and asking the consent of this Committee for the consecration of the Rev. Christopher Edwards Gadsden, D. D. Rector of St. Philip's Church, in Charleston, Bishop elect of the Diocese of South Carolina, are presented for consideration, and the testimonials of his fitness to exercise the office of Bishop being satisfactory to the Committee, whereupon, on motion, it is voted and resolved, that the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Rhode Island do give their consent, and do approve of the consecration of the Rev. Christopher Edwards Gadsden, as Bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina, in conformity with the canon of the Church in such case provided, and do grant a certificate of such approval and consent accordingly.

*Providence, June 9th, 1840.* I certify the preceding to be true copies of the proceedings of the Standing Committee of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode Island for the year ending June, 1840, duly compared.

Witness,

BENJAMIN COWELL, *Secretary.*

## F.

## Report of the Committee on Sunday Schools.

THE Committee on Sunday School operations report the following statistics of the Sunday Schools in this Diocese :

|                     |               | Scholars. | Average Attendance. | Teachers. | Vols. in Library. |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| St. James's Church, | Woonsocket,   | 130       | 90                  | 17        | 300               |
| Emanuel             | Manville,     | 75        | 55                  | 7         |                   |
| St. Paul's          | Pawtucket,    | 175       |                     | 30        | 425               |
| Grace               | Providence,   | 200       | 150                 | 30        |                   |
| St. John's          | "             |           |                     |           |                   |
| St. Stephen's       | "             | 100       | 70                  | 15        | 275               |
| St. Mark's          | Warren,       | 150       | 110                 | 20        | 300               |
| St. Michael's       | Bristol,      | 250       | 125                 |           |                   |
| St. Paul's          | Portsmouth,   | 20        |                     | 4         | 80                |
| Trinity,            | Newport,      | 146       | 87                  | 18        | 640               |
| Zion                | "             | 240       |                     | 27        |                   |
| St. Paul's          | Wickford,     | 80        | 45                  | 13        | 200               |
| St. Paul's          | Tower Hill,   | 35        |                     | 8         |                   |
| Christ              | Lonsdale,     | 80        |                     | 16        | 400               |
| St. Luke's          | E. Greenwich. |           |                     |           |                   |
| Christ              | Westerly.     |           |                     |           |                   |

The Committee hope they may not be considered as transcending the design of their appointment, in the few remarks which they are desirous of adding to the above information.

1st. In the first place, your Committee are painfully impressed with the apprehension that there is an alarming and wide-spread evil, which has been suffered to grow out of the institution of Sunday Schools. There is great reason to fear that the Sunday School has been extensively operating as a *substitute* for that *parental* and family education which the word of God, and the Book of Common Prayer, recognize as of indispensable necessity. There is reason to fear that many parents, who realize in some measure their official responsibility as heads of families, neglect to give that *frequent* and *personal* attention to the spiritual education of their offspring

which they are solemnly bound to render. The Committee cannot but regard such a neglect as fearfully ominous to the best interest of the Church of Christ. Indeed, they cannot consider it as an extravagant declaration, that the Sunday School would be better extinguished to-day, than that it should operate as the *substitute* of those *fireside instructions*, that *individual care*, which it is the sacred and unalterable duty of every father and mother, every guardian and sponsor, to extend to the children and youth committed to their care. We cannot conceive of any circumstance which would justify a parent (who has the ability and opportunity) in transferring from himself, to a Sunday School, the task of moulding the religious character and sentiments of his children. The family relation is an ordinance of God, the Sunday School is not; and we hold that the legitimate influence of the latter, however wholesome and valuable, are secondary in importance to the *family* influence, supposing them both to be exerted with equal fidelity.

Among the sources of instruction to the young, the preëminence has been assigned by Jehovah to parents. "Honor the instructions of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother; for they shall be ornaments of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck." "In the parent," we have been truly told, "are united, in a degree not to be paralleled in the case of any earthly superior, *authority* and *affection*,—*authority* established on peculiar foundations, and affections impelled by peculiar motives, to temper the exercise of command, and so to guide the reins, as to render control productive of the highest attainable benefit to the individual under subjection." The Committee desire to echo abroad this important remark. The relation subsisting between a parent and child is such as to qualify a parent to act with more effect, and with greater success, than can reasonably be expected from the efforts of any one else whatever.

His *authority* being greater, and his affections stronger than that of any one else, he occupies a vantage ground peculiarly and exclusively his own. From no lips will the precious truths of religion distil so sweetly and so powerfully upon a child as from those of a parent. And if that parent do no



more than place his children in a class in the Sunday School, (be the advantages of that school, as to discipline and instruction, never so great,) he leaves undone a fundamental part of his duty. He has *something* to do which cannot be done by proxy. And if the sentiment, that Sunday school advantage may stand instead, rather than as auxiliaries, of family education, is to be the *prev alent* sentiment, the Sunday School institution will prove an equivocal blessing to the Church. The direct influence of the Sunday School is principally during a passing hour or two on one day out of seven ; while the influence of the family, as far as the child is concerned, is clothed with a kind of ubiquity, pressing upon him, not periodically, but continually, from day to day, and from hour to hour.

Such a continuous influence is of cardinal importance in bringing up the young in the fear of the Lord. Any attempt, then, to *exchange* such an influence for the occasional efforts put forth in a Sunday School, must be fraught with disaster to the religious welfare of the rising generation.

While, then, we bless God for the beneficent and sanctifying tendencies of the Sunday School, we should be cautious of not interrupting those tendencies by sanctioning any *abuse* of the institution. Let it occupy its proper place. Let its influence be a *co-operating*, and not a mal-influence of that of the parent, and it will accomplish, under God, greater wonders for the Church than have been seen as yet.

The Committee would fain hope that their views on this point may not be misinterpreted. No languor has crept over their affections for the Sunday School. Their grateful sense of its past result has experienced no abatement. And their anxiety that it should be shorn of none of its power has occasioned the above remarks. For it is fully believed that if the perversion to which we have alluded should become universal, the cause of the Christian education of the young would be mournfully retarded.

In many cases, indeed, the parents of Sunday School children are themselves lamentably ignorant of the first rudiments of spiritual knowledge ; and most criminally indifferent to the eternal interests of themselves and their offspring. In such instances, it is a great mercy that those neglected souls can



have the advantages offered in the Sunday School. But our present remarks have been dictated in view of those numerous examples in which parents of sufficient competency in knowledge, and recognizing their own responsibilities, seem to fancy themselves released from daily and personal attention to their little ones, because some benevolent person in the lecture-room is willing to instruct them an hour or two on the Lord's day. The Committee desire to lift up against such negligence the voice of an earnest and affectionate remonstrance, which they hope will be sanctioned by this Convention.

2d. Your Committee would also venture to call the attention of the Church in this Diocese to the propriety and importance of reviving in all our Churches the ancient and edifying practice of *catechizing*. This body is perhaps aware that this practice, after having lain dormant in the American Church for a long period, has recently been restored in quite a number of the parishes in different parts of the country, and with such results as encourage the hope that the practice may yet become universal. Those of our clergy who have undertaken the catechizing of their children, have uniformly found that the scholars' interest in their lessons has been deepened, and that the instruction imparted has been more clearly comprehended. Indeed, our parish clergy hardly seem to be invested with discretionary power on this subject.

The language of the 28th Canon of the General Convention declares, that "the ministers of this Church, who have the charge of parishes or cures, shall not only be diligent in instructing the children in the catechism, but shall also, by stated catechetical lectures and instruction, be diligent in forming the youth and others in the doctrines, constitution, and liturgy of the Church."

But the canonical obligation of this practice, however, need not be the only reason for undertaking and sustaining it.

Diligence in catechizing will prove of great value, in rendering the instructions of the pulpit better understood, and therefore more effectual. "Catechizing is necessary to prepare the ground; preaching, to crop it."

"The most useful of all preaching," declares Bishop Hall, of pious memory, "is catechetical; this being the ground, the

other the walls and roof. What good use is there of those affections that run before the judgment, or of those walls that want a foundation? For my part, I have spent the greater half of my life in this station of our holy service, I thank God, not unpainfully nor unprofitably. But there is no one thing of which I repent so much, as not to have spent more hours in this public exercise of catechism; in regard whereof, I would quarrel with my sermons; and I wish that a great part had been exchanged for this preaching conference."

It would also tend to produce greater steadfastness of religious professions. "What may be the reason," says that quaintest of quaint men, Thomas Fuller, "why so many nowadays are carried about with every wind of doctrine? Surely it is because they have never been well catechized in the principles of religion.

"O for the ancient and primitive ordinance of catechizing! every youth can preach, but he must be a man, indeed, who can profitably catechize. Indeed, whole sermons are like whole joints, for *men* to manage; but catechizing is mince meat, shred into questions and answers, fit for *children* to eat, and easy for them to digest. While the minister may also, for the edification of those of riper years, enlarge and dilate himself on both, as he seeth just occasion."

In concluding these remarks, the Committee are anxious to call the attention of Churchmen, in this Diocese, to the importance of bestowing a liberal patronage on the periodical published by the General Episcopal S. S. Union, viz. "The Journal of Christian Education." Its present editors are the Rev. Benjamin O. Peers and the Rev. Benjamin I. Haight; and, under their auspices, the "Journal" is exerting a very valuable influence upon the great interests of "Christian education." The editors manifest a gratifying ability and industry in elucidating and vindicating the principles of baptismal education, embodied in the Book of Common Prayer. The Committee gladly embrace this opportunity of bearing their testimony to the excellence of the "Journal," and of recommending it to the support and perusal of Sunday School teachers and heads of families.

HENRY WATERMAN,

GEORGE S. WARDWELL.

## G.

## Parochial Reports.

*Trinity Church, Newport.*

THE records of this church exhibit, at Easter, communicants, 110; baptisms, 14, (11 infants, 3 adults;) confirmed, 3; burials, 12.

Since Easter, communicants added, 8; total, 118. Marriages, 2. Burials, 1. FRANCIS VINTON, *Minister*.

*St. Stephen's Church, Providence.*

The undersigned resigned the office of Rector of this new church at Easter.

In July he administered the first communion to 17 persons, and at every subsequent communion added numbers, amounting in all to 30. Total communicants, 49. Confirmations, 13. Baptisms: adults, 11; infants, 3. Marriages, 4 — two not of the parish. Burials, 4 — not of the parish.

During the same period arrangements were made for building a stone church, and before Easter the building was begun. It is a satisfactory reflection that the spiritual charge of the parish was resigned for a season to a faithful pastor, and also that in the future Rector the church will have an able minister of the New Testament. And, above all, the blessing of God already vouchsafed, while it calls for renewed labors and devout thanksgiving, is believed to be an earnest of a fuller effusion of the Holy Spirit.

FRANCIS VINTON, *late Rector*.

I assumed the temporary charge of this parish April 22d, 1840, to continue only for the period intervening between the resignation of the Rev. Mr. Vinton up to August or September, the time when the Rev. Mr. Leeds, the Rector elect, is expected to enter upon his duties.

There were at that time belonging to the parish 48 communicants; added since, 2; present number, 50. Baptisms, 2, adults. Confirmations, 7. Sunday school teachers, 15; num-

ber of scholars, about 100; volumes in library, 275. Missionary and charitable contributions, about \$50.

My usual services are, preaching three times on the Lord's day, a prayer-meeting on Tuesday evening, and a lecture on Friday evening. There seems to be a general seriousness and a pervading interest on the all-important subject of religion throughout the congregation, and I think the parish may be said to be prosperous both in a temporal and spiritual point of view. They have commenced the erection of a new church, the corner-stone of which was laid on Monday of the present week, which is to be a commodious and substantial edifice of stone, to be completed and ready for consecration some time in the ensuing autumn. May the great Head of the Church continue to smile upon this interesting little flock!

JOHN H. ROUSE, *officiating Minister.*

*St. John's Church, Providence.*

TO THE BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE :

Rt. Rev. Sir,—For a long series of years St. John's Church has moved on in the old ways, with a process so uniform, that, if the past affords any rule by which to judge of the future, there can be little difficulty in finding her position in the path of life, and annual reports would seem to be superfluous. Her progress in that path is slower than we in our eagerness would have it; and yet we have gratefully to acknowledge that, by the blessing of God, it has at all times been singularly steady, noiseless, and peaceful. Her numerical growth has not been so rapid at any time (except perhaps in 1816, when nearly seventy joined her communion) as might be desired, and yet not a few have been with us; and we humbly hope that the cause of her divine Head has received instrumentally substantial aid from her example, her contributions and prayers.

We have deemed it safest and best not to vary the means and appliances to which we have long been accustomed, although to this perhaps some may ascribe the fact that while our worshipping assembly has been as numerous the past year as we have ever known it, and the disciples of Christ among us, in common with others, have been permitted to rejoice in the awakened sensibility to the things of religion which of late has pervaded many sections of the city, the accessions to her com-



munion have only been just about the same the present as in each preceding year during the last quarter of a century. If we are wrong in our steadfastness, we should like to receive instruction.

I have baptized 24, of whom 9 were adults; and I mention this not because the canon requires me thus to distinguish between the infant and the adult baptisms, but because the universality of this gratuitous specification, in all its nakedness, may be thought by some to indicate a sort of triumph that the proportion of adults is generally so great; whereas, it is, or ought to be, matter of grief that the ancient practice of the Church in reference to the baptism of infants should be so little regarded, and her present doctrine upon the point so little practised.

I have received to the Lord's supper 22, of whom several enjoyed the privilege but once before they were taken, we trust, into the more immediate presence of Him whose body and blood that sacrament not only represents but exhibits.

Of marriages, there have been 4, and of burials 21. 22 have been confirmed. Whole number of communicants a little short of 200. Our Sunday school, though for a while it seemed to languish, has revived, and is now in quite an interesting state. The missionary and other contributions have been little if at all affected by the embarrassments of the times. As to contributions, perhaps, in justice and by way of encouragement it should be said, that, while St. John's Church gave, the last year, to various religious and charitable objects, considerably over \$2000, she has in the course of eight years given to the Convocation alone nearly \$4000, never less than \$400 a year, some years \$430, one year \$475, and one about \$800. And it is a fact that naturally connects itself with the preceding, and is of some interest to us all, that during that period the ladies of the Church in Rhode Island have contributed, and the Convocation in their behalf has expended, for the promotion of religion within the State, not much, if any less than \$16 000,—a small sum indeed when put in the scale against one never-dying soul, and yet quite a large sum, as the world estimate these matters; large enough, we trust, to save us from the charge of extravagance and fanaticism in our appropriations to the foreign missionary department.

N. B. CROCKER.



*Grace Church, Providence.*

Since the last Convention 28 persons have been baptized in this church, 13 infants and 15 adults ; 25 persons have been added to the communion, and 20 have been confirmed. There have been 8 burials and 7 marriages.

During the year a new lecture-room has been erected by the parish, in which the sessions of the Sunday school are now held. The number of teachers is 32, and of scholars about 150. It will be seen that this statement shows a reduction in the number of the pupils since the last report. This is in consequence of the comparatively small dimensions of the new room, which cannot well accommodate more than our present number of scholars.

Since the last year the festivals of the Church have been regularly observed, and the services of those occasions been found to be profitable.

The general condition of the parish continues to be prosperous.

ALEXANDER H. VINTON, *Rector.*

*St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.*

In presenting a report of St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown, it will be proper to remark that small things cannot be compared with large, but small with small. The hearty reception of Christ is there little observable, fervent love of God little manifest, and the comforting influence of the Holy Ghost and the sweet fellowship of Christian sympathy, it is to be feared, little generally experienced. Probably also a knowledge of these blessings is not highly estimated, and consequently not greatly desired. Yet still encouraging circumstances are presented. The whole of the members received into that church are six by baptism, and one member from Zion Church has removed into the parish. Of these six, three manifesting hopeful symptoms of conversion have been lately received. Two of them were baptized and confirmed when the Bishop visited the island last April, and the third was added the Sunday before the last. On inquiry from those for some time acquainted with the state of things, the reply is, that attendance on public worship and attention to religious subjects are more general among the inhabitants than before known, and the lib-

erality of the people in support of the means of grace has increased threefold.

The undersigned, who began his ministry in that parish with the commencement of January last, feels it a privilege to take this opportunity to acknowledge the cordial hospitality he has experienced, being kindly received from house to house wherever he went, and living among them from that time to this free of expense.

Of the six members above mentioned, one, baptized by his predecessor, Rev. Samuel Penny, Jr. after a lingering sickness, which she endured with cheerful confidence in Christ, died this spring, triumphant in christian faith.

This report is respectfully presented by

JOHN SUDDARD.

*St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.*

Since the last Annual Convention, there have been added to the communion 2. One has been suspended, 5 dismissed, and 1 died. Total, 18 communicants.

There have been 2 infant baptisms, 2 funerals, and 1 marriage. Our Sunday school remains small, but is regularly attended. It is with thankfulness that I can speak of the ladies' sewing circle, which has prosecuted its duties with most commendable zeal; and its efforts have been successful beyond any former year since the formation of the parish: its receipts have been more than \$70. A suitable dwelling-house for the Rector having been always very much needed, the corporation, some time in March, determined to make an effort for building; and a very neat little cottage has consequently been erected. In this they have been aided to nearly one half the expense, by the kind liberality of Churchmen in neighboring towns. There have been raised for various other charitable purposes \$18 65.

But, while with gratitude to God we would acknowledge our prosperity in external things, we have to lament and be humbled that we have made but little advance in spiritual things. We trust, however, that the Lord, who has been watering the dry and barren portions of his vineyard, making them to blos-

som and yield abundant fruit, may yet in his good time pour out his grace upon us, and give us a rich harvest.

R. E. NORTHAM.

*Emanuel Church, Manville.*

The Rector of this Church entered upon the discharge of his duties in January last. Previous to this, the parish had been destitute of regular ministerial services for about eighteen months; and of course its interests in every respect were found in a condition of decay. But, under the blessing of God, our prospects have brightened, and we confidently look forward to a period when the Lord will manifest his special presence among us, and his name be adored in the beauties of holiness.

The building in which the services were formerly held is now being enlarged to nearly twice its original dimensions: an ample vestry will be appended, and all the usual conveniences for worship liberally provided. In the course of about two months, it is expected that the church will be ready for consecration.

The liberality and promptness with which these preparations have been forwarded by the parish cannot, indeed, be too much commended. No expense has been or will be spared for the purpose of rendering this house of God, so far as external facilities are concerned, a meet place for his presence. Our prayer is, that the "glory of the Lord" may fill it, and that multitudes may here be gathered into the fold of the Redeemer. If a hope may be built upon present appearances, the time, we trust, is not far distant when this prayer will be realized. The attendance upon church has been uniformly very good, and an attention manifested, which we cannot but think will ripen into permanently serious impressions.

The Sabbath is occupied in the following manner: in the morning the Sunday school is assembled, and the instruction of the children substituted for the usual morning service; in the afternoon and evening, the regular services of the Church are performed.

A ladies' sewing circle has been organized, which holds its meetings on every Thursday evening.

A Bible class and teachers' meeting is held on every Friday evening.

The records of the church furnish the following statement: added to the communion, by removal from other churches, 2. Marriages, 1. Funerals, 1. Sunday school, average attendance, from 50 to 60; number of teachers, 7.

SAMUEL PENNY, JR. *Rector.*

*St. Paul's Church, Wickford.*

As minister *pro tem*, the undersigned respectfully reports, that, although he has been enabled to do but little duty, comparatively, during the past conventional year, the prospects of this parish are more encouraging than ever before. A divine spirit is evidently moving among the people, and will prevail.

Four persons have been received into full communion. Five have been buried; and there have been two marriages.

The Sunday school continues about the same as at the last report; and an equal or rather an increased zeal in the ladies' sewing circle is manifested by the pledge of fifty dollars, already made to your Missionary Board, for the current year.

LEMUEL BURGE, *Minister pro tem.*

*Christ Church, Lonsdale.*

By the records of Christ Church, there have been, the last year, baptisms, 8; 6 adults and 2 infants. Added to communion, 7, who are candidates for confirmation. Marriages, 4. Funerals, 7.

The Rev. Mr. Janson resigned his charge of this parish in November, and the Rev. T. G. Salter was engaged to preach until Easter following. The Rev. C. C. Taylor, of Amesbury, has accepted an invitation to the rectorship of this church, and will commence his labors on the first of July next.

C. C. DEXTER, }  
JONA. BRIDGES, } *Wardens.*

*St. Michael's Church, Bristol.*

During the past year, through the Divine blessing, we have good reason to believe that several of our young people have



been hopefully converted, though not yet making a profession, and that several more are sincerely seeking a Saviour. Twenty infants, and one adult, have been baptized. Nine marriages, and fourteen burials have occurred. Seven communicants have been added, and six have died: the whole number is 287. The religious services have been the same as in the preceding year; and, notwithstanding the severe pressure of the times, the parish has contributed \$1690 for religious and charitable objects. Our Maternal Association still continues its labors of love; and, lately, the female prayer-meeting has been revived. May great grace and mercy be vouchsafed to it.

JOHN BRISTED, *Rector.*

*Zion Church, Newport.*

The Rector of Zion Church, Newport, respectfully reports to the Convention of the Church in Rhode Island, for the year 1840, as follows, viz.:

Baptisms: adults, 2; infants, 2. Marriages, 1. Burials, 7. Sunday school scholars, 240; Sunday school teachers, 27. Books in libraries, 550. Communicants: added, 5; removed, 5; total, 150.

The contributions to missionary and other benevolent objects have been somewhat increased during the current year, the Ladies' Convocation Society having, in addition to their customary offerings, contributed \$100 to the church in Michigan, and a special donation of \$25 to the mission in Africa. To this society the young parish of Zion Church is much indebted, also, for their timely and liberal aid in its support and improvement. They have added, this year, to the list of their benefactions, a present of a complete set of window-blinds for the church; and, having already repaid into the treasury of the Convocation a much larger sum than was originally appropriated by them towards the establishment of this church, they have assumed an obligation to contribute largely toward the reduction of a remaining church debt, — a debt which was incurred in consequence of the parish having undertaken at too early a period to provide for its own support, independently of missionary aid.

JOHN WEST, *Rector.*



*Church of the Ascension, Wakefield.*

This parish was formed by the Rev. Francis Vinton, who has taken a deep interest in its prosperity; and, through his instrumentality, a commodious church has been erected and handsomely furnished. On being introduced into the parish, I found it in its infant state, having only six communicants who attended divine worship at Tower Hill.

The church not being finished, and no room to be obtained for religious services, I have preached once every Lord's day at Kingston. Through the blessing of God our church is now finished, and was consecrated by our venerable Bishop on the 3d instant. The congregation was large, the services peculiarly solemn and interesting.

For the future, my labors will be divided between Tower Hill and this parish, for which I beg an interest in the prayers of my brethren. The number of communicants is the same as the last report; and "the harvest is still great." The exertion of a little band of ladies has been very praiseworthy in this good work.

W. H. NEWMAN.

*St. Peter's Church, Kingston.*

This parish became deprived of an officiating clergyman when the Rev. Francis Vinton removed to St. Stephen's Church, Providence. Lay services were then commenced by Lieutenant A. A. Harwood, U. S. Navy, who was licensed by the Bishop of the Diocese for this object, and which he pursued with praiseworthy zeal. He is for the present absent on professional duties. In January last, I undertook to officiate once on the Sabbath, until the Church of the Ascension was finished at Wakefield; and on the 31st of May my regular services closed at Kingston.

The communicants have attended with much seriousness upon the means of grace, and other persons also. I regret that this interesting flock and kind people are at present without either a clergyman or lay reader; and I hope, as strength is afforded me, occasionally to give them the services of the church. An interesting sewing circle meet once a week; and a small Sabbath school is under the care of a few ladies. In

this parish I have administered the communion once; transferred one by letter to another parish; and buried one communicant in the hope of the gospel. Present number of communicants, 16.

W. H. NEWMAN.

*St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill.*

Having recently entered upon my labors in this parish, my knowledge of the state of the flock is limited. I found the parish had been destitute of a pastor, and also of lay services, for some time, and the aspect of things discouraging.

I have the satisfaction to see the congregation increase every Sabbath; and, although in this report I can relate little that is cheering of the temporal or spiritual state of the parish, I desire to be thankful that the younger part of the congregation are awakened to their duty, and appear attentive to the means of grace. "Who knoweth but the Lord will return and leave a blessing?" I have organized a Sabbath school, which promises well, having commenced with 35 children. In this parish I have buried one, and married one couple. I have not at present been able to find the number of communicants placed on the church records, and have concluded it best not to make an incorrect return.

W. H. NEWMAN.

*St. Paul's Church, North Providence.*

During the last conventional year, the congregation of St. Paul's Church has increased more than on any previous year; but I regret to state that additions to the communion have been few. Twenty-five dollars have been raised for education, and more than \$200 for missions. The Sunday school is very flourishing. It consists of 30 teachers and 175 scholars. Connected with the school there is a library of about 425 volumes. I have attended 48 funerals, 5 only in my own parish; baptized 8; and married 13. Number of communicants, 148.

GEORGE TAFT, *Rector.*

*Christ Church, Westerly.*

The subscriber would respectfully report that he left the parish of Christ Church, Westerly, on the 26th of December,

1839, under the deep conviction that the providence of God directed to another field. Nothing but this deep conviction could have induced him to rend asunder those tender ties which for more than five years have bound him to that much-loved community.

During the six months, from June to December, 1839, the parish continued steadily advancing in all their efforts to extend the cause of Christ among their fellow-men. The various societies connected with the parish have been in successful operation.

The records for the above six months show, communicants added, 6; died, 3; removed, 3; present number, 118. Confirmed, 2. Baptized adults, 5. Married, 3. Buried, 8.

JAMES PRATT, *former Rector.*

*St. James's Church, Woonsocket.*

Baptisms, 18, of which 5 were adults. Marriages, 5. Funerals, 8. Communicants: added, 16; removed, 5; died, 1; present number, 70. Confirmed, 23. Pupils in the Sunday school, 130; teachers, 16.

The plan of "weekly offerings" in behalf of missionary and other benevolent purposes, mentioned in our last report as having been adopted in this parish on the 1st January, 1839, is still continued, although we fear that it is not very generally prosecuted in the congregation. The amount of "offerings" for the year ending December, 1839, was upwards of one hundred and seventy dollars, a sum far exceeding the contributions of any preceding year.

The ladies' sewing circle has also accomplished more during the past year than it has ever done before; having raised, by subscription and by the needle, the sum of \$100.

The services of the sanctuary have continued the same as stated in the last report, excepting that the leading festivals and fasts of the Church have been more regularly and (it is hoped) more faithfully observed. Notwithstanding the formation of a new congregation in the village, the demand for seats in St. James's Church has never been so great as at present. We feel authorized in representing the parish as in a thriving condition.

HENRY WATERMAN, *Rector.*

*St. Mark's Church, Warren.*

The Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren, reports, burials, 11; marriages, 1; baptisms, (1 adult and 12 infants,) 13. Six have been added to the communion, four have removed; present number, 114.

The Sunday school consists of about 150 scholars, and 20 teachers; average attendance of scholars and teachers, 130. Volumes in the Sunday school library, about 300.

Weekly offerings for the last year to Easter, about \$277, and other charitable contributions about \$250.

This church in all its temporal interests is prosperous and encouraging.

GEO. W. HATHAWAY.

## RECAPITULATION OF PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

| Churches.                            | Baptisms. |          |        |            | Communicants. |             |          |            |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------|------------|---------------|-------------|----------|------------|
|                                      | Adults.   | Infants. | Total. | Confirmed. | Added.        | Present No. | Burials. | Marriages. |
| St. Stephen's Church, Providence, -  | 13        | 3        | 16     | 20         | 32            | 50          | 2        |            |
| Church of the Ascension, Wakefield,  |           |          |        |            |               | 6           |          |            |
| St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill, -     |           |          |        |            |               |             | 1        | 1          |
| Grace Church, Providence, -          | 15        | 13       | 28     | 20         | 25            | 280         | 8        | 7          |
| St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, -     |           | 2        | 2      |            | 2             | 18          | 2        | 1          |
| St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown, -   | 2         |          | 2      | 2          | 4             | 6           | 1        |            |
| Emanuel Church, Manville, -          |           |          |        |            | 2             |             | 1        | 1          |
| St. Paul's Church, Wickford, -       |           |          |        |            | 4             |             | 5        | 2          |
| Zion Church, Newport, -              | 2         | 2        | 4      |            | 5             | 150         | 7        | 1          |
| Christ Church, Lonsdale, -           | 6         | 2        | 8      |            | 7             |             | 7        | 4          |
| St. Paul's Church, North Providence, |           |          | 8      |            |               | 148         | 5        | 13         |
| Trinity Church, Newport, -           | 3         | 11       | 14     | 3          | 8             | 118         | 13       | 2          |
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol, -     | 1         | 20       | 21     |            | 7             | 287         | 6        | 9          |
| Christ Church, Westerly, -           | 5         |          |        | 2          | 6             | 118         | 3        | 3          |
| St. James's Church, Woonsocket, -    | 5         | 13       | 18     | 23         | 16            | 70          | 1        | 5          |
| St. John's, Church, Providence, -    | 9         | 15       | 24     | 22         | 22            | 200         | 21       | 4          |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren, -         | 1         | 12       | 13     |            | 6             | 114         | 11       | 1          |
| St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich, - |           |          |        |            |               |             |          |            |
| St. Peter's Church, Kingston, -      |           |          |        |            |               | 16          |          |            |
|                                      | 62        | 93       | 158    | 92         | 146           | 1581        | 94       | 54         |



## H.

### Report of the Committee appointed to revise the Constitution and Canons.

THE Committee appointed by the last Convention to revise the Constitution and Canons of the Church in Rhode Island, beg leave to report the following:

#### CONSTITUTION

OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND.

ARTICLE I. This Church accedes to the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and also to the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese.

ARTICLE II. There shall be a stated Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Diocese on the second Tuesday in June in each year, in such place as the Convention shall determine. Special meetings of the Convention may be called by the Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee. If the Episcopate be vacant, special meetings may be called by the Standing Committee. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting other than is specified in the notice calling such meeting.

ARTICLE III. Every Convention shall be opened with prayer, followed by a sermon, or by an address from the Bishop, and the celebration of the Lord's Supper; after which the President and Secretary of the preceding Convention shall take their places, when the Secretary shall call the names of the clergy, and receive and read the certificates of the lay Delegates. The Secretary of the Convention shall then be chosen, and the records of the preceding Convention shall be read, and the necessary Committees appointed. The morning service of the Church, or a special service appointed by the Bishop, shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention.

ARTICLE IV. The Bishop shall preside in the Convention;



but, when absent, the President shall be chosen by ballot from among the clerical members of the Convention.

ARTICLE V. The Convention shall be composed of the clergy officiating in the parishes in this Diocese, and also of such clergymen as are employed as instructors in any incorporated seminary of learning in this Diocese, and of missionaries officiating in this Diocese, under the direction of the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese, and of ministers whose age and infirmities prevent the exercise of their clerical functions, and of chaplains of army and navy of the United States belonging to this Diocese, and also of lay Delegates, not exceeding four from each parish in union with this Convention, who shall present certificates, signed by the Wardens or the parish clerk, that they are duly chosen.

ARTICLE VI. New parishes may, by a vote of this Convention, be admitted into union with it on presenting written evidence under the authority of the Wardens and Vestry, that they are duly organized, and accede to the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention, and also of the Convention of this Diocese.

ARTICLE VII. The Convention being duly organized, the members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business ; and upon all questions the members shall deliberate in one body, and in voting shall vote by individuals. But if in any case it be required by any three members, the two orders shall vote separately, and in such case the laity shall vote by congregations, and the concurrence of both orders shall be necessary to constitute a decision.

ARTICLE VIII. The Secretary shall be chosen by ballot from among the members of the Convention, and he shall remain in office until the next Convention, and until the appointment of a successor.

ARTICLE IX. A Treasurer, who shall be a layman, shall be elected annually, and shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Convention. It shall be his duty to render to the Convention an annual report in writing of his doings and of the state of the treasury.

ARTICLE X. A Standing Committee, consisting of three clergymen and three laymen, who shall be communicants of this Church, shall be appointed by the Convention annually,

and shall continue in office until the election of a new committee. They shall keep a record of their proceedings, and shall report the same to the Convention at its annual meeting. A majority shall be a quorum for all purposes, except those for which the Canons of the General Convention require a larger number.

ARTICLE XI. Deputies to the General Convention shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting next preceding the meeting of the General Convention, and shall continue in office at least three years. The clerical deputies shall be nominated by the clergy, and the lay deputies by the laity; and the persons so nominated shall then be chosen by a concurrent vote of the two orders. Should any delegate decline such appointment, he shall, within one month after his appointment, so inform the Bishop, or (if there be no Bishop) the president of the Standing Committee; whereupon the Bishop, or (if there be no Bishop) the Standing Committee shall forthwith provide a substitute.

ARTICLE XII. Whenever the episcopate shall become vacant, the Standing Committee shall call a special Convention, to be held in the city of Providence within three months after such vacancy shall have occurred, and shall give written notice of the same at least four weeks previous to said meeting to each parish in union with the Convention. The Convention thus assembled may immediately proceed to the election of a Bishop, or make any other provision for the episcopal supervision of the Diocese.

ARTICLE XIII. The election of a Bishop shall proceed in the following manner: The two orders having separated, the clergy shall appoint, by ballot, a person for that office; whereupon their choice shall be made known to the order of lay Delegates, and, if approved of by them, the candidate so appointed shall be declared to be duly elected. In any such election, a majority of each order shall determine the choice.

ARTICLE XIV. Canons for the government of the Church, and Rules of Order for the conducting of business, may be adopted from time to time by the Convention.

ARTICLE XV. The mode of altering this Constitution shall be as follows: A proposition of amendment shall be intro-

duced in writing and considered in the Convention, and, if approved of, shall lie over to the next Convention; and, if again approved of in that Convention by a majority of the two orders voting thereon separately, the change shall take place, and the Constitution so altered shall be valid and obligatory.

NOTE. The above Constitution was read, considered and approved in Convention, as above printed, and is to be submitted to the next Convention for their final action, according to the provision of the Constitution under which the Church is now organized.

FRANCIS VINTON, *Secretary.*

## REPORTED CANONS.

### CANON I.

#### *Neglect of Parochial Reports.*

In order to secure a full and accurate view of the state of the Church, in case the requisitions of the 51st Canon of the General Convention on this subject be not complied with by the Minister, or other proper authority of any parish, it shall be the duty of the Convention to cause inquiry to be made into its condition.

### CANON II.

#### *Offences for which Ministers may be tried.*

Disorderly, scandalous, and immoral conduct, neglect of duty, engaging in any worldly avocations palpably incompatible with the clerical office and the due discharge of pastoral duty, disregard of the Constitution and Canons of the General and Diocesan Conventions, a continued non-attendance at the annual Convention of the Church in this Diocese, disseminating or countenancing opinions contrary to the doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, are offences for which a clergyman ought to be censured, and for which, when accused, he may be brought to trial.

## CANON III.

*Mode of trying Clergymen.*

If any clergyman of this Church offend in any one or more of the instances enumerated in the foregoing Canon, complaint may be made to the Standing Committee, which shall be done in writing by two persons, who shall be communicants, and one of whom shall be a presbyter of this Church.

The Standing Committee, if they deem the charges well founded, shall present said clergyman to the Bishop for trial.

The Bishop shall thereupon summon a jury of three presbyters, who shall be the judges both of the law and the facts; the Standing Committee shall act as prosecutors in the case, and shall give the accused a copy of the charges presented to the Bishop, and also sixty days' notice of the time and place of the trial. Neither party shall employ a layman as advocate.

If the accused shall not appear at the trial, the judgment of the court shall proceed against him by default, and he shall be suspended from the exercise of his clerical functions for the space of six months. And if during that period he shall not apply for a trial, he shall then be degraded from the ministry.

The judgment of the court shall in all cases be made known in writing to the accused, and to the Vestry of his church, together with the charges and specifications, and an outline of the evidence produced on the trial, if it shall be demanded by the accused.

If the Bishop approve the judgment, he shall within thirty days proceed to administer the discipline prescribed by the court.

Should the Bishop disapprove the decision of the court, he may at his discretion summon a new court and order a new trial; and the judgment of the second court shall be final, and the Bishop shall then proceed to execute it as above.

## CANON IV.

*Offences for which Communicants may be disciplined.*

The offences for which any communicant of this Church may be subjected to discipline, are gaming, attendance on theatrical or any other corrupting amusement, the general neg-



lect of public worship or of the holy communion, or the violation of the decalogue.

## CANON V.

*Discipline of Communicants.*

Communicants who shall neglect the holy communion or an attendance on public worship for the space of six months, without a reason satisfactory to the Rector of the church, shall be suspended from the communion. For any of the other offences enumerated in Canon IV the manner of discipline shall be as follows :

The Rector shall first admonish the offender, and if there shall within a reasonable time appear no satisfactory proof of repentance, the Rector may then request the advice of five impartial communicants of the church of which the offender is connected ; and if, on due investigation of the evidence, they shall, by a vote of the majority, pronounce the offender worthy of discipline, the Rector shall forthwith repel him from the communion. In every instance of repelling, the Rector shall give notice to the Bishop, (as provided in the 42d Canon of the General Convention.) Should the communicant so repelled appeal to the Bishop, the Bishop shall summon a council of five presbyters, (of which he shall be president,) to decide upon the case. Should the council reverse the judgment of the Rector, the repelled communicant is restored, and should they confirm his decision, the communicant is repelled.

## CANON VI.

*Board of Missions.*

The missionary operations of the Church in this Diocese shall be conducted by a Board of Missions, to be called the Missionary Convocation of the Church in Rhode Island, consisting of such of the clergy in the Diocese entitled to seats in the Convention as shall pledge to the treasury of the Board for the missionary purposes of the same an annual sum equal to at least one tenth of their respective salaries. The Board shall report annually to the Convention their proceedings, together with an account of their receipts and expenditures, and



a general statement of the condition and prospects of their missionary stations.

The Bishop of the Diocese shall be, *ex officio*, President of the Board, and no appointment of missionaries shall be made unless approved of by him, according to the conditions of the 30th Canon of the General Convention.

The Treasurer of this Board shall be a layman of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

#### CANON VII.

##### *Board of Education.*

There shall be appointed annually by the Convention a Board of Education, consisting of two clergymen and one layman, to whom shall be intrusted the appointment of young men to be educated for the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church. A report of their doings shall be presented annually to the Convention, and pledges shall be solicited from the clergy and laity of the several churches for the objects of the Board.

The beneficiaries of the Board shall be subject to its direction and control, except in those instances when a church or an individual shall alone establish a scholarship, contributing a sum not less than seventy-five dollars, when the church or individual so contributing shall appoint and direct the education of the incumbent. If any scholarship so instituted shall be vacant for the space of six months, the money pledged for its support shall still be paid and applied to the general purposes of the Board.

#### CANON VIII.

##### *Board of Sunday Schools.*

There shall be appointed annually by the Convention a Board, to consist of two clergymen and one layman, to whom shall be intrusted the supervision of the Sunday schools of the Church within the Diocese. The said Board shall organize themselves by electing a chairman and secretary, and who shall make an annual statistical report of the Sunday schools within the Diocese, and accompanied with such facts and sug-

gestions as they shall deem to be interesting and calculated to promote the Sunday school cause.

CANON IX.

*Bishop's Fund.*

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of this Convention to receive the annual contributions of the parishes in this Diocese for the support of the Bishop, and to transmit the same to the Treasurer of the Eastern Diocesan Convention, and report the amount annually to this Convention.

CANON X.

*Alterations of the Canons.*

Forasmuch as frequent legislation, or any needless fluctuation in the rules and regulations of the Church is to be avoided, as being both troublesome and dangerous, it is hereby declared that no alteration in the Canons of the Diocese shall be made, unless it be approved by the Convention on one day, and confirmed by a majority of both orders the day after.

CANON XI.

*Convention Sermons and Episcopal Charges.*

A sermon preached at the opening of the Convention shall be at its entire disposal, to be published by its order, but not otherwise.

Episcopal Charges delivered before the Convention shall be published by the same, without any motion in relation thereto.

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| ALEXANDER H. VINTON, | } Committee. |
| GEO. W. HATHAWAY,    |              |
| WM. G. GODDARD,      |              |

JOURNAL  
OF  
PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF THE  
Protestant Episcopal Church  
IN  
RHODE ISLAND,  
HELD IN  
Trinity Church, Newport,  
TUESDAY, JUNE 8, AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, A.D. 1841.

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BOSTON:  
JAMES B. DOW,  
OFFICE OF THE WITNESS AND ADVOCATE.  
1841.

BOSTON:  
WM. A. HALL AND CO.  
PRINTERS.

# LIST OF THE CLERGY

OF THE

Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode Island.

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The Rt. Rev. ALEXANDER VIETS GRISWOLD,  
D. D. Bishop of the Diocese.

Rev. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church,  
Bristol.

Rev. LEMUEL BURGE, residing at Wickford.

Rev. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's  
Church, Providence.

Rev. THOMAS F. FALES, Assistant Minister of St. Mi-  
chael's Church, Bristol.

Rev. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church,  
Warren.

Rev. GEORGE LEEDS, Minister of St. Stephen's Church,  
Providence.

Rev. WILLIAM H. NEWMAN, Rector of Christ Church,  
Westerly.

Rev. SAMUEL PENNY, Jr. Rector of Emanuel Church,  
Mannville.

Rev. JOHN H. ROUSE, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Wick-  
ford.

Rev. JOHN SUDDARDS, Minister of St. Matthew's Church,  
Jamestown.



Rev. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence.

Rev. CHARLES C. TAYLOR, Rector of Christ Church, Lonsdale.

Rev. ALEXANDER H. VINTON, Rector of Grace Church, Providence.

Rev. FRANCIS VINTON, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. HENRY WATERMAN, Rector of St. James's Church, Woonsocket.

Rev. MILTON WARD, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.

Rev. JOHN WEST, Rector of Zion Church, Newport.

Rev. WILLIAM H. MOORE, Deacon, of the Diocese of New York, officiating at St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich.

———, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill.

———, Rector of Church of the Ascension, Wakefield.

———, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Kingston.

## LIST OF LAY DELEGATES,

CERTIFICATES OF WHOSE ELECTION BY THEIR RESPECTIVE CHURCHES  
WERE PRESENTED AND APPROVED.

---

*St. John's Church, Providence.* Austin Gurney, W. G. Goddard, William T. Dorrence, and Benjamin Cowell.

*Grace Church, Providence.* George S. Wardwell, Resolved Waterman, Alexander Duncan, and Aaron Smith.

*St. Stephen's Church, Providence.* Joseph S. Cook, Gideon Gurnett, William Burrough, and William Coleman.

*Trinity Church, Newport.* S. F. Gardner, J. H. Giliat, Christopher G. Perry, M. D. and George Hall.

*Zion Church, Newport.* S. T. Northam, S. Whitehorne, A. Bush, and S. B. Vernon.

*St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.* John Burrington, Stephen Thomas, Joseph Thomas, and Albert C. Greene.

*St. Michael's Church, Bristol.* George Pearse, John G. Harding, Benjamin Hall, and T. J. Tanner.

*St. Mark's Church, Warren.* Haile Collins, George G. Hazard, Wm. Turner, and Nathan M. Wheaton.

*St. Paul's Church, North Providence.* Danforth L. Peck, Gideon L. Spencer, George Mumford, and James H. Mumford.

*St. James's Church, Woonsocket.* Randall Holden, John B. Walker, Eli Pond, Jr. and W. B. Sayles.

*Christ Church, Westerly.* Lyndon Taylor, Horace Babcock, Stephen Smith, Jr. and Levi L. Derby.

*St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich.* David Penniger, and Joseph S. Tillinghast.

*St. Paul's Church, North Kingston.* Allan M. Bates, Geo. B. Thomas, James Eldred, and H. N. Reynolds.

*Christ Church, Lonsdale.* Warren Cooke, James M. Carpenter, Alexander B. Chace, and John L. Cooke.

*St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.* Sylvester Hazard, and John Eldred.

Not represented by Laity,—*St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill ; St. Peter's Church, Kingston ; Emmanuel Church, Manville ; and Church of Ascension, Wakefield.*

# Journal.

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*{ Trinity Church, Newport, R. I.  
  { Tuesday, June 8, 1841.*

THIS being the day and place appointed by the Constitution for the Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode Island, it assembled in Trinity Church, Newport, at half past 8 o'clock, A. M.

After the morning prayer, which was conducted by the Rector of the church, the Convention was organized, the Rev. John West being called to the chair.

The roll was then called, and the following clergymen answered to their names and took their seats :

|                      |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Rev. W. H. Newman,   | Rev. H. Waterman,             |
| Rev. Francis Vinton, | Rev. John West,               |
| Rev. Milton Ward,    | Rev. W. H. Moore, of the Dio- |
| Rev. John Suddards,  | cese of New York, offici-     |
|                      | ating in Rhode Island.        |

The following lay delegates being qualified, answered to their names, and took their seats :

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| S. F. Gardner,     | Lyndon Taylor,  |
| J. H. Gilliat,     | Horace Babcock, |
| C. G. Perry, M. D. | Stephen Smith,  |
| Levi L. Derby,     | George Pearse,  |
| Geo. Mumford,      | J. G. Harding,  |
| Randall Holden,    | J. B. Walker,   |
| J. Burrington,     | J. S. Cooke,    |
| Stephen Thomas,    | A. Bush,        |
| Joseph Thomas,     | Allan M. Bates. |

The Convention then proceeded to elect, by ballot, a Secretary of the Convention for the year ensuing :

Whereupon the Rev. Francis Vinton was reëlected Secretary, and Mr. William D. Lake was invited to be his assistant.

The rules of order were then read and adopted, except the first rule.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That, owing to the sickness of the appointed preacher of the Convention sermon, and in order to allow him substitute time for preparation, the Convention, when it shall adjourn till to-morrow, shall adjourn to half past 8 o'clock, for the holy communion and Convention sermon.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the visiting clergy and candidates for orders present be invited to the sittings of the Convention.

The Rev. Francis Vinton and Lyndon Taylor were elected a Committee on "unfinished business." This Committee reported, and their report was accepted.

The Parochial Reports were made the order of the day at 3 o'clock.

On motion of the Rev. Francis Vinton,

*Resolved*, That the election of the Standing Committee and Delegates to the General Convention be made the order of the day, after the Parochial Reports, in the afternoon.

After which the following officers were chosen, on nomination :

*Board to Superintend Sunday Schools.*

CLERGY.

Rev. George W. Hathaway,  
Rev. H. Waterman.

LAITY.

J. H. Gilliat.



*Board of Theological Education.*

CLERGY.

Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D.

Rev. George W. Hathaway.

LAITY.

William G. Goddard.

The Committee appointed to compile a History of the Church in Rhode Island, reported that the history was in progress, but as many valuable materials were yet to be gathered, begged leave to be continued till the next Convention.

The report was accepted, and leave granted.

At the suggestion of the Committee it was

*Voted*, That it is inexpedient for the Committee to grant for publication the materials now in its possession, until the history be completed and reported to the Convention.

Moved, that a Committee of Nomination of the Standing Committee and Delegates to General Convention be appointed. Unanimously rejected.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Samuel Penny, Jr. be appointed to preach the next Convention sermon, and that the Rev. Charles C. Taylor be his substitute.

Rev. Lemuel Burge and John H. Rouse appeared and took their seats.

At the suggestion of the chairman, the Rev. J. West,

*Resolved*, To reconsider the vote making the election of Standing Committee and delegates to the General Convention the order of the day this afternoon, and that the Convention now proceed to vote for the said Committee and Delegates.

Whereupon the following gentlemen were elected, by nomination, the

*Standing Committee.*

CLERGY.

Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D.

Rev. George Taft,

Rev. Alexander H. Vinton.

LAITY.

George Mumford,

Resolved Waterman,

Benjamin Cowell.

The following clergymen were then chosen, by ballot,

*Delegates to the General Convention.*

CLERGY.

Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D.  
Rev. A. H. Vinton,  
Rev. G. W. Hathaway,  
Rev. John West.

LAITY, SUBSEQUENTLY CHOSEN.

William G. Goddard,  
J. H. Gilliat,  
E. S. Wilkinson,  
Benjamin Hall.

The following clergy then appeared and took their seats :

Rev. George Taft, Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. Rev. T. F. Fales, Rev. George W. Hathaway, Rev. George Leeds.

The following lay delegates were qualified and took their seats :

James M. Carpenter, Alexander B. Chace, John L. Cooke.

After which the Convention adjourned, to meet at 3 o'clock.

*Afternoon Session, 3 o'clock.*

The Convention assembled, and the following delegates were qualified and took their seats :

*Laity.*—Geo. Hall, Wm. Burrough, Wm. Turner, Haile Collins, Nathan M. Wheaton, Wm. Coleman, Geo. S. Wardwell, Resolved Waterman, Alexander Duncan, Aaron Smith, Austin Gurney, Wm. G. Goddard, Wm. T. Dorrance, B. Cowell, J. Eldred.

*Clergy.*—Rev. A. H. Vinton.

Mr. W. G. Goddard then introduced resolutions relative to the organization of the Convention, which, after debate, were withdrawn.

The Parochial Reports were then read. [Appendix.] It was moved to appoint a Committee to revise the Parochial Reports; but the duty was finally left with the Bishop,

and, in his absence, with the President of the Convention, agreeably to Canon vii. 1835.

The gentlemen whose names are recorded as lay delegates to the General Convention were then elected by ballot.

The Treasurer's Report was then read, and referred to the Finance Committee for auditing. [See Appendix A.]

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the report on the deficiency in the Bishop's fund be committed to the Finance Committee, and that they report to-morrow. [See Appendix E.]

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the Constitution and Canons be made the order of the day this evening at 8 o'clock.

The Convention then adjourned to 8 o'clock in the evening.

*Evening Session, 8 o'clock.*

The Convention assembled. The Rev. C. C. Taylor appeared and took his seat.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the next Annual Convention be holden at St. Michael's Church, Bristol, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The order of the day, the consideration of the Constitution and Canons, was then called up. After consideration, and by a majority of the two orders voting thereon separately, the Constitution was again *approved* and **ADOPTED**. [See Appendix K.]

The Canons reported at the last Convention were then read as far as the 6th Canon, and acted upon, as follows:

On motion,

*Voted*, That the 1st Canon be stricken out, and that the 2d Canon be amended by calling it the 1st Canon.

On motion,

*Voted*, That the 3d Canon be adopted, and called the 2d Canon.

On motion,

*Voted*, That the 4th Canon be stricken out.

The 5th Canon was read, and an amendment was proposed, and its discussion was postponed.

The 6th Canon was then called up and discussed, when,  
On motion of Rev. Dr. Crocker,

*Resolved*, That the vote, adjourning the Convention to the hour of 8½ o'clock to-morrow morning, be reconsidered, and that the Convention meet at 6 o'clock for divine service, and at 10 o'clock for business.

The Convention then adjourned, to meet at 6 o'clock in the morning.

*Wednesday morning, 10 o'clock.*

The Convention met, according to adjournment, at 6 o'clock, and divine service was conducted by Rev. H. Waterman. At 10 o'clock, the Convention assembled for business.

After the roll was called, the proceedings of yesterday were read, amended, and approved.

The Canons were then called up and discussed.

On motion of Rev. A. H. Vinton, Canon 5th was amended, and passed as Canon 3. Canon 6th was amended, and passed as Canon 4. Canon 7th was passed as Canon 5. Canon 8th was amended, and passed as Canon 6. Canon 9th was amended, and passed as Canon 7. Canon 10th was amended, and passed as Canon 8. Canon 11th was rejected.

The Canons were then adopted by a large majority of both orders, voting separately. [See Appendix L.]

The Committee appointed to draft Rules of Order reported, and the rules were read, discussed, amended, and adopted. [See Appendix I.]

The report of the Standing Committee was then read and accepted. [See Appendix F.]

The report of the Treasurer was read and accepted. [See Appendix A.]

The report of the Committee on Education was read and accepted. [See Appendix C.]

Committee on the Deficiency in the Bishop's Fund reported, and their report was accepted. [See Appendix E.]

The Committee on Finance reported, and their report was accepted. [See Appendix D.]

The Board to superintend Sunday Schools reported, and their report was accepted. [See Appendix G.]

The report of the Board of Missions was read by Rev. G. W. Hathaway, amended and accepted. [Appendix B.]

The following resolutions were then adopted, on motion of Rev. Milton Ward :

Whereas, in the Providence of a wise and merciful God, our brother, the Rev. Robert E. Northam, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, has been removed by death, therefore,

*Resolved*, That we deeply feel the loss which we have sustained in the death of the pious, devoted and faithful minister of Christ, so lately one of our number, and engaged with us in promoting the precious interests of the Redeemer's kingdom.

*Resolved*, That we deeply sympathize with the respected widow and the other friends of the deceased, and with the parish of which he was Rector, in the sorrows which their sudden and most afflictive bereavement has occasioned.

*Resolved*, That those of us who are consecrated to the same glorious work in which our brother was engaged, are admonished by his early departure to make full proof of our ministry, to redeem the time, to abound in holiness, faith, and zeal, and to prepare for rendering an account of our stewardship to the Judge of quick and dead.

*Resolved*, That, as a permanent testimony of our regard for the memory of the deceased, these resolutions be entered on the Journal of this Convention, and that a copy of them be transmitted to the family of the deceased.



On motion of Mr. W. T. Dorrance, seconded by Prof. Goddard,

*Resolved*, That this Convention recommend to the Parishes of this Diocese to make a contribution at the close of the convocational services, for the payment of the travelling expenses of the clergy.

Messrs. Alexander Duncan, J. S. Cooke, W. G. Goddard, B. Cowell, and W. T. Dorrance, were excused for the remainder of the session.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the several churches be now called on for pledges for Theological Education for the ensuing year. Whereupon the following pledges were made :

|                                   |   |               |      |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------|------|
| Grace Church, Providence,         | 3 | scholarships. |      |
| St. John's Church " "             | 1 | "             |      |
| Trinity Church, Newport,          | 1 | "             |      |
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol,    | 1 | "             |      |
| St. Paul's Church, N. Providence, |   |               | \$25 |
| John Henry Gilliat,               | 1 | "             |      |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren,        | - | -             | 25   |
| St. James's Church, Woonsocket,   | - | -             | 20   |
| Christ Church, Westerly,          | - | -             | 12   |
| W. T. Dorrance,                   | - | -             | 25   |
| W. G. Goddard,                    | - | -             | 25   |
| J. S. Cooke,                      | - | -             | 25   |

*Voted*, That 1000 copies of the Journal of this Convention be printed, and distributed to Parishes in proportion to their respective assessments, and that the Secretary and J. H. Gilliat be a committee of publication.

*Voted*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rector and Parish of Trinity Church, for their hospitality to this Convention.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the 2d article of the Constitution be

amended by adding after the word "place," the words "and hour."

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the 11th Article of the Constitution be amended as follows, after the word "committee," 10th line, "Or, should any lay delegate be deceased, due notice shall be given accordingly by the Rector of the Parish."

*Resolved*, That the Convention adjourn to half past 7 o'clock, and that, after sermon and the holy communion, the Convention adjourn, *sine die*.

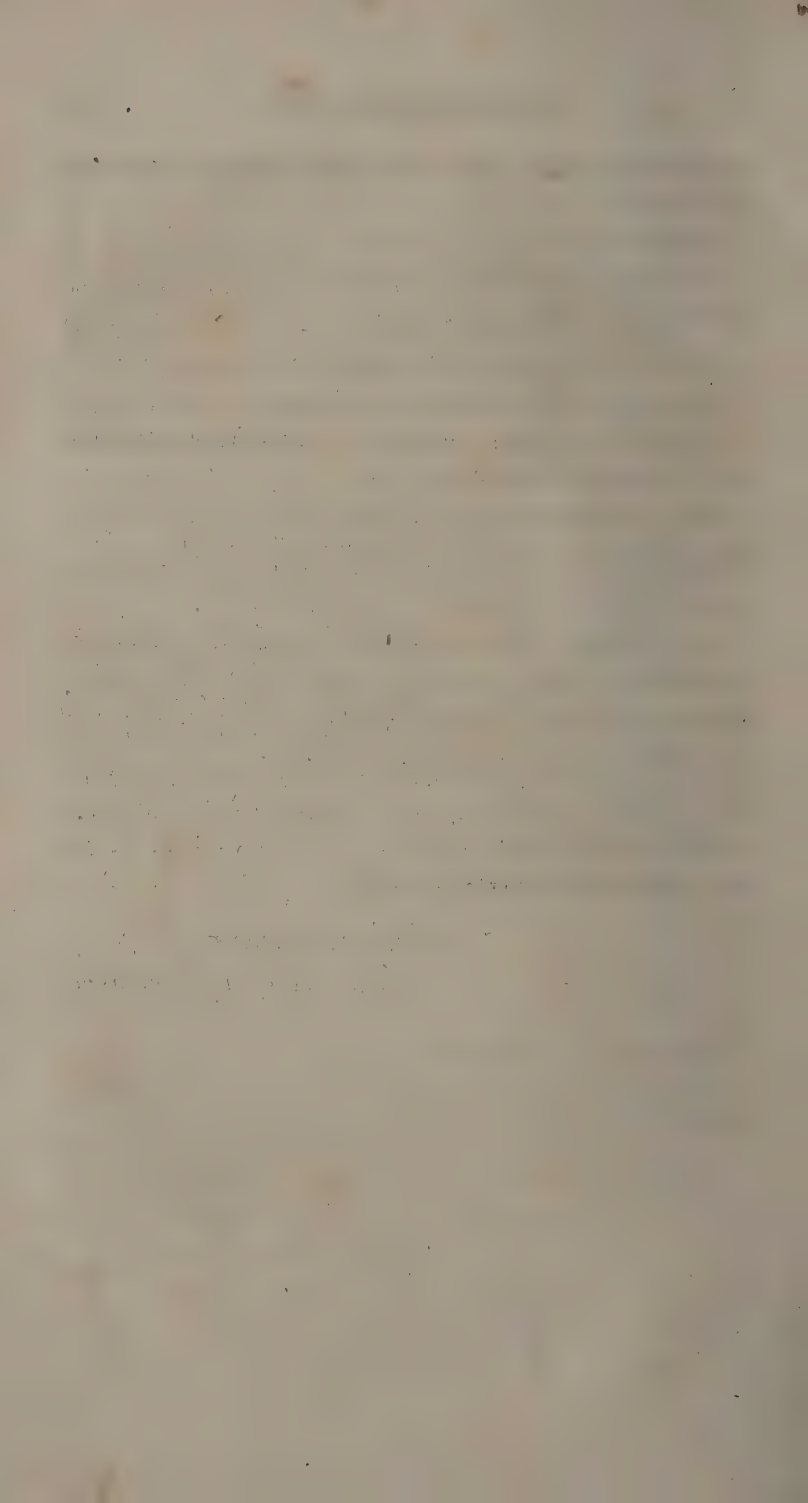
The proceedings of this Convention were then read, amended, approved, and ordered to be published.

The Convention then adjourned to 7½ o'clock, for divine service and communion.

At 7½ o'clock the Convention assembled. The ante-communion service was read by Rev. Wm. H. Newman, Rector of Christ Church, Westerly. The sermon was preached by Rev. A. H. Vinton, of Grace Church, Providence; and the holy communion was administered by Rev. G. W. Hathaway, of St. Mark's Church, Warren, assisted by Rev. Mr. Newman. At 10 o'clock, P. M. the Convention adjourned, *sine die*.

FRANCIS VINTON,

*Secretary of the Convention.*



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## Appendix.

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Dr. *The PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH of Rhode Island in account with L. TAYLOR, Treasurer.* Cr.

|           |  |       |          |
|-----------|--|-------|----------|
| 1840.     |  |       |          |
| June 9.   | To balance brought to new account,         | - - - | \$9 36   |
| " 11.     | " cash paid Rev. James Pratt, for postage, | - - - | 98       |
| " "       | " Bishop, per order,                       | - - - | 20 00    |
| " "       | " for postage the last year,               | - - - | 30       |
| Dec. 10.  | " J. B. Dow, for printing,                 | - - - | 63 00    |
| 1841.     |  |       |          |
| April 26. | " J. B. Dow, for balance of his bill,      | - - - | 28 50    |
| June 8.   | " Rev. F. Vinton's bill,                   | - - - | 4 23     |
|           |  |       | <hr/>    |
|           |  |       | \$126 37 |

1841.  
June 8. To balance brought to new account, - - - \$32 37

There remains due from the following churches, for their last year's assessment, the following sums, namely:

|                             |           |        |
|-----------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Mannville,                  | - - - - - | \$2 00 |
| St. Luke's, East Greenwich, | - - - - - | 2 00   |
| St. Paul's, Tower Hill,     | - - - - - | 2 00   |
| St. Peter's, Kingston,      | - - - - - | 1 00   |
|                             |           | <hr/>  |
|                             |           | \$7 00 |

(Signed,)

LYNDON TAYLOR, *Treasurer.*

|                |  |       |          |
|----------------|--|-------|----------|
| 1840.          |  |       |          |
| June 10.       | By cash received of St. John's Church, Providence, | - - - | \$12 00  |
|                | By cash received of Grace Church, Providence,      | - - - | 12 00    |
| " "            | " St. Stephen's Church, do.                        | - - - | 6 00     |
| " "            | " Trinity Church, Newport,                         | - - - | 10 00    |
| " "            | " Zion Church, Newport,                            | - - - | 10 00    |
| " "            | " St. Paul's Ch. N. Providence,                    | - - - | 7 00     |
| " "            | " St. Michael's Church, Bristol,                   | - - - | 8 00     |
| " "            | " Christ Church, Lonsdale,                         | - - - | 5 00     |
| " "            | " St. James's Ch. Woonsocket,                      | - - - | 5 00     |
| " "            | " Christ Church, Westerly,                         | - - - | 5 00     |
| " "            | " St. Paul's Ch. Portsmouth,                       | - - - | 2 00     |
| " "            | " St. Paul's Ch. Wickford,                         | - - - | 2 00     |
| " "            | " Ascension Ch. Wakefield,                         | - - - | 2 00     |
| " "            | " St. James's Ch. Jamestown,                       | - - - | 1 00     |
| " "            | " St. Mark's Ch. Warren,                           | - - - | 7 00     |
| Aug. 18. 1841. |  |       |          |
| June 8.        | By amount carried to new account,                  | - - - | 32 37    |
|                |  |       | <hr/>    |
|                |  |       | \$126 37 |

Newport, June 8th, 1841.

Errors excepted.

(Signed,)

LYNDON TAYLOR, *Treasurer.*

**B.****Report of the Board of Missions.**

WITH a grateful acknowledgment of the divine mercy which has preserved and prospered us through another year, the Missionary Convocation of the Church in Rhode Island would, in compliance with the requisition of the Canon appointing them the Missionary Board of the Church in this State, respectfully present the following as their Annual Report. The better to correspond with an ecclesiastical year, and as it is more convenient for the missionaries and churches, whose engagements and parochial arrangements usually commence at Easter, the Convocation hold their annual meetings, for the election of officers, receiving pledges, and making appropriations, in the first week in April, and consider the convocational and missionary year as commencing with that month. Hence the annual report, with respect to its statistics, extends up to April last.

The Convocation have met eight times, in as many different parishes, during the year: at St. Paul's Church, North Providence, in June, during the annual Convention; at St. Michael's Church, Bristol, in August; at St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, in September; at Zion Church, Newport, in October; at St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich, in December; at St. Mark's Church, Warren, in February; at Grace Church, Providence, in March; and at St. John's Church, Providence, in April, being the annual meeting: at all which times and places, besides the missionary business, religious services were held during two days. In some cases, these services were attended with an evident blessing; and in no case, we think, were they altogether without benefit. We, indeed, consider the religious services attending the convocational meetings in the different parishes as one of the chief excellences of our present peculiar organization as the Missionary Board of the Church; for it can be no less useful and important to the interests of religion, to awaken and sustain a lively spirituality and efficiency in churches already established, than the establishing of new churches.

As appears from the Treasurer's account, which is herewith presented, there was received into the missionary treasury, during the last convocational year, from annual pledges and collections at convocational meetings, the sum of \$1676 56; all of which has been appropriated to feeble churches and missionary stations, as they severally had need, and in sums that will appear in the Treasurer's account.

The following churches were assisted during the last year: St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth; St. Paul's Church, Wickford; St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown; St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill; Ascension Church, Wakefield; St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich; and St. Stephen's Church, Providence. Respecting the condition of these churches, we would refer to the Parochial Reports presented to this Convention. The churches at Tower Hill and Wakefield, which are united as one missionary station, are, we regret to state, destitute of a minister; the Rev. Mr. Newman, their late acceptable missionary, having accepted, at Easter, a call to the vacant rectorship of Christ Church, Westerly. The Convocation have appointed a committee to cooperate with these churches, in procuring the services of a minister, and it is hoped that they may not be long destitute. St. Stephen's Church, Providence, is also now vacant, by the resignation of the Rev. Mr. Leeds, the first of the present month; but it is hoped that this church will soon be supplied. The following churches, now independent and flourishing, are indebted to the Convocation for their first foundation, and more or less of nursing care, namely: Zion Church, Newport; Christ Church, Westerly; Christ Church, Lonsdale; Emanuel Church, Mannville; and St. James's Church, Woonsocket. One of the churches now aided, it is expected, will sustain itself after the present year. When we look back upon the blessing that has attended the labors of the Convocation, and around upon the wide-spread spiritual destitution that our State still presents, we feel that all, both clergy and laity, are urgently called upon to cooperate zealously with the Convocation, which is the missionary organ and agent of the Church, in their design and efforts to extend and establish the institutions of the gospel in every region within our borders.

The following pledges were made to the Board, at their last annual meeting, for the present year, payable quarterly to the Treasurer, Samuel Whitehorne, Esq. of Newport. These

pledges were made by the members of the Board in behalf of their respective churches, but for the payment of which they hold themselves to be individually responsible. The pledges are nearly the same as those of the preceding year :

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| St. John's Church, Providence, - - - - -       | \$300 |
| Grace Church, Providence, - - - - -            | 300   |
| Trinity Church, Newport, - - - - -             | 125   |
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol, - - - - -       | 100   |
| St. Paul's Church, North Providence, - - - - - | 100   |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren, - - - - -           | 100   |
| Zion Church, Newport, - - - - -                | 100   |
| St. Stephen's Church, Providence, - - - - -    | 80    |
| Christ Church, Westerly, - - - - -             | 75    |
| St. Paul's Church, Wickford, - - - - -         | 50    |
| St. Luke's Church, Tower Hill, }               | 55    |
| Ascension Church, Wakefield, }                 |       |
| St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, - - - - -       | 50    |
| St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich, - - - - -   | 50    |
| Emanuel Church, Mannville, - - - - -           | 40    |

Urgent calls are made from feeble churches for assistance, and appropriations have been made to meet them as far as the prospective resources of the Board would prudently justify. There is no present prospect that the Board will be able to establish any new missionary station the present year, though it is their wish and intention so to do as soon as an increase of funds, or a diminution of calls upon them, shall enable them so to do. The Convocation have ever made it a principle, in their appropriations, to assist those only who manifest a disposition to assist themselves, and to annually diminish the appropriation, as the assisted church shall be deemed able to do more towards its own support.

The Board, with much reluctance and delicacy, would next present a subject which has been long and anxiously considered by them, and which, after mature deliberation, they feel that both justice to themselves and to the care entrusted to them, impels them to present to the consideration of this Convention. As most of the members of the Convocation are living on salaries scarcely adequate, with the strictest economy, to support themselves and families, they have found the expenses of attending



the monthly meetings of the Convocation to be very inconvenient and burdensome ; consequently some attend but seldom, others irregularly, not unfrequently to the great disappointment of the people where the Convocation is appointed to be held, and to the detriment of the interests of religion and the Church. As the prosperity and success of the missionary cause, as well as the beneficial influence upon the churches of our convocational meetings, depend very much upon a full attendance of the members of the Convocation, it seems to be due to the sacred objects designed to be accomplished by the Convocation, that something be done to remove so great an obstacle from their way. We therefore respectfully request of this Convention, whose agents and servants we are, that they would appoint and authorize some way for the payment, in part, or in whole, of the expenses of the members and treasurer in their monthly attendance upon the meetings of the Board. It is proper to revert, on this subject, to the early practice of the Convocation. It was then found that the expense of travelling was an obstacle to a regular attendance on the part of the members, and it was resolved to provide for them by the expedient of taking up a collection in each church where the Convocation assembled in their monthly meetings. This is the origin of the convocational collections.

In closing this report we feel it a melancholy duty to notice the death, and to record our high regard for the memory of, one of our number, whom Almighty God, in his wise but mysterious providence, suddenly removed from his labors to his reward. The Rev. Robert E. Northam, late rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, departed this life on the 28th of October last, leaving an afflicted family and parish to mourn his early and sudden death. Our departed brother had greatly endeared himself to the people of his charge, and to us his fellow-laborers in this portion of the Lord's vineyard ; but in the midst of his parochial usefulness he was suddenly called away, affording to us a solemn admonition that what we would do we must do quickly, for we know not the day nor the hour when the Son of man cometh.

All which is respectfully submitted in behalf of the Missionary Convocation of the Church in Rhode Island.

N. B. CROCKER, *Vice-President.*





*in Account with* SAMUEL WHITEHORNE, *Treasurer.* **Cr.**

|              |   |            |
|--------------|---|------------|
| 1840.        | By balance from last account.....   | \$2 42     |
| April 18.    | Collection at St. John's Church, Providence.....  | 14 52      |
| May 25.      | From Trinity Church, Newport.....   | 25 00      |
| June 10.     | St. Michael's Church, Bristol, for Easter collections.....                                    | 22 00      |
| " "          | St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, " ".....   | 2 80       |
| July 6.      | Ladies of St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket.....   | 25 00      |
| " 7.         | Weekly offerings St. James's Church, Woonsocket.....  | 18 75      |
| " 13.        | Ladies of Grace Church, Providence, \$25 of which is for the parsonage at<br>Portsmouth.....  | 75 00      |
| " "          | From ladies St. John's Church, Providence.....  | 75 00      |
| " 16.        | From ladies St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.....  | 12 50      |
| " "          | Ladies of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.....  | 25 00      |
| Aug. 8.      | Parish of St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.....  | 3 60       |
| " 12.        | Monthly offerings, St. Mark's Church, Warren.....   | 25 00      |
| " "          | Ladies of St. Stephen's Church, Providence.....   | 25 00      |
| " 14.        | Ladies of the Churches at Tower Hill and Wakefield.....                                       | 13 75      |
| Sept. 13.    | Ladies of Zion Church, Newport.....   | 100 00     |
| " "          | Collection at St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.....  | 3 07       |
| Oct. 7.      | Monthly offerings St. Mark's Church, Warren.....  | 12 50      |
| " "          | Collection at St. Michael's Church, Bristol, in August last.....                              | 37 00      |
| " "          | From a Friend at Bristol.....   | 5 00       |
| " "          | Ladies at Bristol.....  | 25 00      |
| " "          | Ladies at St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich.....  | 25 00      |
| " 8.         | Ladies of St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket.....   | 25 00      |
| " "          | Collection at Zion Church, Newport.....   | 6 07       |
| " "          | Parish St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.....   | 12 50      |
| " 16.        | Ladies of the Churches at Tower Hill and Wakefield.....                                       | 13 75      |
| " 22.        | Ladies of St. John's Church, Providence.....  | 75 00      |
| " 24.        | Ladies of St. Stephen's Church, Providence.....   | 20 00      |
| Nov. 16.     | Ladies St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.....   | 12 50      |
| " "          | Treasurer of Trinity Church, Newport.....   | 50 00      |
| Dec. 1.      | Ladies Grace Church, Providence, \$25 of which are for the parsonage at<br>Portsmouth.....    | 75 00      |
| " 9.         | Collection at St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich.....  | 8 00       |
| " "          | Ladies of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.....  | 4 17       |
| 1841.        |   |            |
| Jan. 16.     | Ladies of St. John's Church, Providence.....  | 75 00      |
| " 27.        | Ladies of Grace Church, Providence, \$25 of which are for the parsonage<br>at Portsmouth..... | 75 00      |
| " 30.        | Parish St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.....   | 12 50      |
| Feb. 2.      | Ladies of St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich.....  | 12 50      |
| " 12.        | Ladies of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.....  | 25 00      |
| " "          | Ladies of St. Stephen's Church, Providence.....   | 80 00      |
| " "          | Monthly offerings at St. Mark's Church, Warren.....   | 18 75      |
| " "          | Collection at " ".....  | 35 00      |
| " "          | Ladies of St. Paul's Church, Wickford.....  | 19 16      |
| Mar. 4.      | Ladies of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.....  | 25 00      |
| " 11.        | Treasurer of Trinity Church, Newport.....   | 50 00      |
| " 18.        | Collection at Grace Church, Providence.....   | 50 00      |
| " "          | Sum paid by Trinity Church, Newport, to Rev. John Suddards, on ac-<br>count his salary.....   | 80 00      |
| April 7.     | Ladies of St. Paul's Church, Wickford.....  | 12 50      |
| " 14.        | Ladies of Grace Church, Providence, \$25 of which are for the parsonage<br>at Portsmouth..... | 75 00      |
| " "          | Ladies of St. John's Church, Providence.....  | 75 00      |
| " "          | Ladies of St. Paul's Church, Pawtucket, to January last.....                                  | 25 00      |
| " "          | Juvenile Sewing Society, St. Mark's Church, Warren.....                                       | 18 75      |
| " "          | Parish St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown, to 1st April.....                                     | 12 50      |
| " "          | Ladies of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.....  | 25 00      |
|              |   | \$1,676 56 |
| Balance..... |   | \$54 30    |

*Providence, April 14, 1841.*

Errors excepted.

SAMUEL WHITEHORNE, *Treasurer.*

## C.

**Report of the Committee on Education.**

THE Board of Education respectfully report to the Convention, that, through the Divine blessing, the interesting department of Christian beneficence entrusted to their more particular care seems to be enlisting an increasing interest and favor in its behalf, and in no year has so much been done by our Church in this State for the education of pious young men for the ministry, as during the one just past. And it is to be hoped that a cause of so much promise, and so necessary to the Church's future welfare, will still continue to increase, till not only a tenfold number shall be kept in constant and successive progress of education and preparation for the holy and self-denying duties of the ministry, but that we shall also, in our own State, and under the direction of this Convention, have an institution provided for the education and training of this important class of young men, who may truly be said to be the hope of the Church.

The following are the beneficiaries of the Board: Edmund P. Brown, beneficiary of St. Michael's scholarship, and graduate of Washington College, Hartford, and candidate for orders in this State, pursuing his studies with the Rev. Mr. Lee, of Pennsylvania; James Mulchahey, a beneficiary of the Gilliat scholarship, and member of the junior class of Washington College; Baylies P. Talbot, of the junior class, Sandford Horton, of the sophomore class, and John Kelly, of the freshman class, of Washington College, and beneficiaries of the three Grace Church scholarships; George Slattery, beneficiary of Zion Church scholarship, at the Cheshire Academy; Thomas L. Randolph, beneficiary of the St. John's Church scholarship, and a member of the present senior class of the General Theological Seminary, New York, and who expects to be ordained in a few weeks, and enter upon an interesting field of labor; and Charles R. Fisher, beneficiary of the Board and a member of the junior class of Washington College.

The whole number of beneficiaries is eight for the last year;

and one scholarship (that of Trinity Church, Newport,) has been vacant. The Board have accounts from the different beneficiaries, very creditable to their talents, diligence and piety, and which may justify the Church in expecting much from their future labors. One of the late beneficiaries of the Board, the Rev. Thomas F. Fales, has been ordained since the last Convention, and is now usefully employed as assistant Minister of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

As it frequently happens that, after scholarships are pledged, a great delay is suffered to occur in nominating beneficiaries, and thus the expectations of the Board and Convention are disappointed, and the Church loses the benefit of such pledges, the Board would recommend, in order to obviate such delays, or to avoid the loss that would otherwise accrue, that the Convention adopt the Canon proposed by the Committee on the Canons to the Convention last year, and which was referred to the consideration of this Convention, — that, when scholarships are pledged, the amount of such scholarships, when there is no incumbent, shall be payable to the Treasurer of the Board of Education, for the general uses of such Board.

This Board would also report, that a generous and benevolent individual, a communicant of the Church, has proffered to the Church the sum of five hundred dollars towards a fund to be under the direction of this Convention, for the education of pious young men for the ministry, provided and whenever five thousand dollars shall be subscribed for the same objects. The excellence of the objects and the general benevolence which prompted the liberal offer, it is not necessary for us to speak of to this Convention. We hope it may meet with a cheering and liberal response from the pious and wealthy members of our communion.

The Board are happy to report, that all the pledges made to the Convention have been redeemed, and there is a balance in the hands of the Treasury, unappropriated, of forty-six dollars and seventy-four cents.

All which is respectfully submitted.

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| N. B. CROCKER,  | } <i>Board of</i>   |
| G. W. HATHAWAY, |                     |
| W. G. GODDARD,  |                     |
|                 | } <i>Education.</i> |



Dr.

## The BOARD OF EDUCATION in account with G. W. HATHAWAY, Treasurer.

Cr.

|          |                              |         |   |   |                 |
|----------|------------------------------|---------|---|---|-----------------|
| 1840.    |                              | 1840.   |   |   |                 |
| June 12. | To paying Charles B. Fisher, | \$53 75 | - | By balance of old account,                            | \$26 32         |
| " "      | " George Slattery,           | 75 00   | - | Collection at Convention,                             | 26 19           |
| July 31. | " Charles R. Fisher,         | 37 50   | - | Cash, one half from a lady, the other half from other |                 |
| Dec. 1.  |                              |         | - | members of Zion Church,                               | 75 00           |
| 1841.    | " J. Mulchahey,              | 50 00   | - | From J. H. Gilliat, for J. Mulchahey,                 | 37 50           |
| Jan. 8.  | " George R. Slattery,        | 37 50   | - | " St. Paul's Church, North Providence,                | 25 00           |
| April 1. | " J. Mulchahey,              | 12 50   | - |   |                 |
| May 25.  | Postage,                     | 1 52    | - | " Mr. Duncan,   | 20 00           |
| June.    | Balance on hand,             | 121 74  | - | " Prof. Goddard,                                      | 20 00           |
|          |                              |         |   | " Juvenile Society of St. Mark's Church, War-         |                 |
|          |                              |         |   | ren, for James Mulchahey,                             | 12 50           |
|          |                              |         |   | From St. James's Church, Woonsocket,                  | 15 00           |
|          |                              |         |   | " members of Zion Church, for G. Slattery,            | 37 50           |
|          |                              |         |   | " J. S. Cooke,  | 20 00           |
|          |                              |         |   | " St. Mark's Church, Warren,                          | 25 00           |
|          |                              |         |   | " Christ Church, Westerly,                            | 12 00           |
|          |                              |         |   | " J. H. Gilliat, for J. Mulchahey,                    | 37 50           |
|          |                              |         |   |   | <u>\$389 51</u> |

Of the above balance there is now due to James Mulchahey and Charles R. Fisher, \$75, leaving a balance unappropriated, \$46 74.

The stipends to the incumbents of most of the scholarships have been paid directly to the beneficiaries, without passing through the hands of the Treasurer.

GEO. W. HATHAWAY, Treasurer of the Board.

June 8, 1841.



## D.

**Report of the Committee on Finance.**

THE Committee on Finance report, that the sum required to meet the current expenses of the Convention for the year, in printing the Journal, &c. to make up the deficiency of last year, and also provide for our proportion of the expenses of the General Convention, will be about one hundred and thirty-five dollars, which amount we have apportioned among the several churches, as follows :

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| St. John's Church, Providence, - - - - -       | \$18 75   |
| Grace Church, " - - - - -                      | 18 75     |
| St. Stephen's Church, " - - - - -              | 10 00     |
| Trinity Church, Newport, - - - - -             | 18 75     |
| Zion Church, " - - - - -                       | 12 50     |
| St. Paul's Church, North Providence, - - - - - | 8 75      |
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol, - - - - -       | 10 00     |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren, - - - - -           | 8 75      |
| Christ Church, Lonsdale, - - - - -             | 6 25      |
| St. James's Church, Woonsocket, - - - - -      | 6 25      |
| Christ Church, Westerly, - - - - -             | 6 25      |
| St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, - - - - -       | 2 50      |
| Emanuel's Church, Mannville, - - - - -         | 2 50      |
| St. Luke's Church, E. Greenwich, - - - - -     | 2 50      |
| St. Paul's Church, Wickford, - - - - -         | 2 50      |
| <hr/>  |           |
|  | \$ 135 00 |

The Committee recommend the following :

*Resolved*, That the Delegates from the several churches now pay their several assessments.

|                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| G. W. HATHAWAY, | } Committee on<br>Finance. |
| BENJ. HALL,     |                            |
| LYNDON TAYLOR,  |                            |

Newport, June 9, 1841.

## E.

## Report of the Finance Committee on the Deficiency in the Bishop's Fund.

THE Finance Committee, to whom was referred the verbal report of the Treasurer upon the collections made in the several churches, to pay the proportion of this Diocese toward the deficiency of the Bishop's salary in previous years, agreeably to a vote of the last Convention, report that the following churches have collected and forwarded to the Treasurer the sums following, namely :

|                                 |         |           |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| St. John's Church, Providence,  | - - - - | \$56 07   |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren,      | - - - - | 10 00     |
| Trinity Church, Newport,        | - - - - | 15 00     |
| St. James's Church, Woonsocket, | - - -   | * 5 00    |
| Grace Church, Providence,       | - - - - | 40 00     |
|                                 |         | <hr/>     |
|                                 |         | \$ 126 07 |

The following churches have made no collections, namely :

St. Stephen's Church, Providence ; Zion Church, Newport ; St. Paul's Church, North Providence ; Christ Church, Westerly ; Christ Church, Lonsdale ; St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth ; St. Luke's Church, E. Greenwich ; St. Paul's Church, Wickford. As forty-eight dollars and ninety-three cents are still due to the Bishop, and the surplus, if any, was to be appropriated to the missionary funds of this State, the Committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following :

*Resolved*, That the Convention expect those churches who have not already done so, to make the collections required by the forenamed resolution, and forward the same to the Treasurer.

|                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| G. W. HATHAWAY, | } Committee on<br>Finance. |
| BENJ. HALL,     |                            |
| LYNDON TAYLOR,  |                            |

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\* Not remitted through the Treasurer.

## F.

**Report of the Standing Committee.**

*Copy of the Proceedings of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Rhode Island, for the year ending June, 1841.*

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, July 2d, 1840, Rev. Dr. Crocker was chosen President, and Benjamin Cowell Secretary, for the ensuing year. A communication was received from the President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Maryland, stating that the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Maryland, held in Baltimore on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of May, 1840, did, on the second day of said Convention, elect, according to the Canons of the General Convention and the Constitution of the Church of Maryland, the Rev. William R. Whittingham, D. D. to the office of Bishop of that Diocese, and requesting the consent of this Committee for his consecration; and satisfactory testimonials having been received and duly considered of his fitness to exercise the office of Bishop to the honor of God and the edifying of the Church: whereupon, on motion, it is

*Voted and Resolved*, That the Standing Committee of Rhode Island do give their consent to and do approve of the consecration of the Rev. William R. Whittingham as Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland, in conformity to the Canons of the Church, and do grant a certificate thereof accordingly.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, at the house of the Rev. Dr. Crocker, on Monday, July 11, 1840, the Secretary being absent, the Rev. Alexander H. Vinton was chosen Secretary *pro tem*. The testimonials of William R. Babcock and Thomas F. Fales, candidates for orders, were laid before the Committee, according to the Canons.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That the Committee recommend the above-named gentlemen to the Bishop for orders, and to sign the canonical testimonials.

On motion, the Committee adjourned.

A. H. VINTON, *Secretary pro tem*.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, August 31, 1840, a communication was received from the Rev. Edward Neufville, President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Georgia, stating the desire of the Church in that Diocese, as unanimously expressed by the 18th Annual Convention, held at Clarksville, on the 4th and 5th of May, 1840, for the consecration of the Rev. Stephen Elliott, Jr. as Bishop thereof, and requesting the consent of this Committee ; and satisfactory testimonials having been received and duly considered that the said Stephen is apt and meet to exercise the office of Bishop to the honor of God and the edifying of the Church, and to be a wholesome example to the flock of Christ,—

Whereupon, on motion, it is

*Voted and Resolved*, That the Standing Committee of Rhode Island do give their consent to and approve of the consecration of the Rev. Stephen Elliott, Jr. as Bishop of the Diocese of Georgia, in conformity to the Canons of the Church, and do grant a certificate thereof accordingly.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, September 7, 1840, the testimonials of Benjamin Franklin and John Bours Richmond, together with their application to be recommended as candidates for orders, were laid before the Committee for consideration ; and, being deemed satisfactory, on motion,

*Voted and Resolved*, That the Committee recommend the above-named gentlemen to the Bishop as candidates for orders, and grant a certificate thereof, which was done accordingly.

The Committee then adjourned.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, September 28, 1840, the testimonials in behalf of Edmund P. Brown, together with his application to be recommended as a candidate for orders, were laid before the Committee for consideration, and, being deemed satisfactory, on motion,

*Voted and Resolved*, That he be recommended to the Bishop as a candidate for orders, and that a certificate be given him accordingly.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, October 5, 1840, the testimonials in behalf of Elisha F. Watson, together with his application to be recommended as a candidate for orders, were laid before the Committee for consideration, and, being found satisfactory, upon motion,

*Voted and Resolved*, That he be recommended to the Bishop as a candidate for orders, and that a certificate be given him accordingly.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, March 8, 1841, the application of James H. Eames to be recommended to the Bishop for ordination as Deacon,

*Voted*, That the applicant have liberty to withdraw his testimonials.\*

I certify the preceding to be a true copy of the proceedings of the Standing Committee for the year ending June, 1841, as appears by the record.

BENJAMIN COWELL, *Secretary*.

## G.

### Report of the Committee on Sunday Schools.

THE Committee on Sunday school operations report the following statistics of the Sunday schools in this Diocese :

|  | Scholars. | Av.  | At. | Teachers. | Vols. |
|--|-----------|------|-----|-----------|-------|
| St. James's Church, Woonsocket, - - - - -      |           |      |     |           |       |
| Emanuel Church, Mannville, - - - - -           | 115       | 75   | 15  |           | 300   |
| St. Paul's Church, North Providence, - - - - - | 90        | 80   | 10  |           | 150   |
| Grace Church, Providence, - - - - -            | 266       | 140  | 40  |           | 655   |
| St. John's Church, Providence, - - - - -       | 225       |      | 25  |           | 500   |
| St. Stephen's Church, Providence, - - - - -    | 70        |      | 13  |           | 250   |
| St. Mark's Church, Warren, - - - - -           | 150       |      | 16  |           | 350   |
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol, - - - - -       | 250       |      | 24  |           | 300   |
| St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth, - - - - -       | 20        |      | 4   |           | 160   |
| Trinity Church, Newport, - - - - -             | 312       | 246  | 36  |           | 720   |
| Zion Church, Newport, - - - - -                | 343       | 216  | 32  |           | 976   |
| St. Paul's Church, Wickford, - - - - -         | 75        | 50   | 13  |           | 275   |
| St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill, - - - - -       | 25        | †    | 4   |           |       |
| Christ Church, Lonsdale, - - - - -             | 120       | 120  | 16  |           |       |
| St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich, - - - - -   | 60        | 46   | 10  |           | 285   |
| Christ Church, Westerly, - - - - -             | 80        | 70   | 15  |           | 200   |
| St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown, - - - - -     | 40        |      | 30  |           | 80    |
| Church of Ascension, Wakefield, - - - - -      | 23        | 23   | 7   |           | 70    |
|  | 2264      | 1016 | 283 |           | 5271  |

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, }  
 FRANCIS VINTON, } *Committee.*  
 GEORGE S. WARDWELL, }

\* Mr. Eames was not passed, in consequence of his term of study being incomplete.

† Suspended during winter.



## H.

**Parochial Reports.**TRINITY CHURCH, *Newport.*

THE number of families in the parish of Trinity Church is about 130. During the past year, through the blessing of God, there has been a steady growth of our congregation and communion. Whole families have in several instances been baptized. Confirmation has been twice administered, and at his last visitation the Rt. Rev. Bishop also instituted the Rector. Divine worship has been celebrated on every Lord's day except one. Besides the usual services, a missionary meeting has commonly been held on the evening of the first Sunday in each month, and a series of lectures have been addressed to young men, on the third Sunday evening in the months between October and Easter.

The holydays have been duly observed, agreeably to the venerable and unvaried practice of this church.

The solemn season of Lent was observed on Litany days by morning and evening prayer, and a course of sermons on 'the Christian's life.'

'Passion Week was solemnized daily by morning and evening prayer, and sermons were preached from the "Sayings of Christ on the cross."

The Rector has also instructed a catechetical class of adults on every Monday evening, with a few exceptions, and likewise a ladies' Bible class on Tuesday afternoons.

A lecture preparatory to the holy communion has been delivered every month.

The church sustains three Sunday schools, in one of which divine service has been lately commenced. The infant school contains 56 scholars; the other schools together contain nearly 300 scholars. The number of teachers in the schools is 36, and the number of volumes in the library is more than 700. The Rector has catechized the children monthly in the body of the church.

The sums contributed for general objects of Christian benevolence amount to between 600 and 700 dollars. The system of monthly family offerings has been established, and is now in operation. On this subject the Rector addressed to the congregation a pastoral letter.

Each month in the past year persons have been added to the communion; of whom 61 were partakers of the sacrament for the first time, and 9 were received from other churches. Total number added, 70. Eight communicants have deceased, and 2 have removed, making the present number 170.

Eighty-nine persons have been baptized, of whom 27 were adults, and 62 were children. Eight marriages and 20 burials have been solemnized. Forty-eight persons have been confirmed. It remains to add to these statistics the public expression of devout gratitude to God, who hath hitherto blessed us.

FRANCIS VINTON, *Rector*.

#### ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, *Providence*.

Baptisms, 25: infants, 15. Marriages, 7. Burials, 22. Communicants, 19 added. Sunday school: teachers, 25; scholars, 225. Books: volumes, 500. Contributions large as usual. Worshippers never so numerous. There are indications of the progress of the truths of righteousness among them, much less equivocal than can be seen in the above statements.

N. B. CROCKER, *Rector*.

#### GRACE CHURCH, *Providence*.

The steadiness which evermore characterizes the doings and progress of our branch of the Church Catholic has been illustrated in the history of our parish. Grace Church has never been so firmly rooted in stability, nor so rich in the elements of spiritual prosperity and growth, as she is now. The freshness of her young vigor has settled into the quiet and assured strength of a healthy maturity. The bright blossom has become sweet fruit. We can admire the Divine goodness in nothing more than in the special nurture it seems to have bestowed upon the interests of this household of the faith, both in the way outward of providential direction, and in the way inward of gracious gifts. While the great Master of the household has continually gathered accessions to her numbers, he has not refused, by his varied and

timely care, to endow her with the spirit of what St. Paul calls "being enlarged" in faith and love. In truth, it is the spiritual wealth of her members which elicits our gratitude, even more effectually than her adorning of outward prosperity. We feel competent to say, with as much assurance as is proper, that during the last year many of our members have been taught of the Spirit more truly and thoroughly than ever before. To a pastor's watchful anxiety there will often appear pregnant indications, which might not draw the notice of an unpractised eye, just as slight symptoms will often determine a physician's judgment. With many such indications of grace have our eyes been blessed.

In what may be called the learning of religion, there has been an advance of interest. Many have studied with a relish the theory of the Gospel and the Church, as well as the mysteries of that interior life which the Gospel and the Church beget and nurse. They have learned to give a reason, both why they are thus, and why they are such after our model. So that a more intelligent, and of course a more devoted, attachment to distinctive episcopacy has been seen to take the place of accidental or unenlightened preference.

There has been the same steady zeal and labor as ever for the great objects of Christian benevolence, and, when occasion demanded, a promptitude and facility for special endeavors. The female communicants are, as always so, now a band of most efficient coworkers with us,—the pastor's help. Yet we are glad to say they do not occupy the place of invidious preëminence they once did, in comparison with the male communicants of our church. Many of this latter class have come up to their duty strongly and well, and have shown themselves men "in Christ."

We are able to report the largest number of communicants that have ever been attached to this church. In the year 1835, the reported number was 266. When the parish fell under our charge, and we were able to ascertain the position of its affairs, there were only 227 communicants. In the year following, namely, 1838, there was a careful examination of the parish record, and the whole number of known communicants was 240. Since that time 93 have been added, and 59 have removed or died, of whom nearly 20 went to form the nucleus of St. Stephen's Church. Our present number is 274. A number of

these, perhaps all the colored communicants, will soon withdraw from us, to strengthen the new congregation of colored persons in Christ Church. No minister ought to regret those deductions from the numbers of his church which are thus made the sources of new multiplication, when the mother of us all becomes equally the matron of a new and untrained family.

Our benefactions during the past year have amounted to \$1750 ; showing an increase of \$250 upon the largest contribution ever reported by us.

Our Sunday school is very flourishing, occupying entirely the building in which it assembles. Measures are now in progress for the addition of a new room for an infant school. The number of scholars is 260. The average attendance, 140. Number of teachers : males, 12 ; females, 28 ; total, 40. Books in library, 655 volumes.

Since the last Convention there have been added to the communion 39 persons. Confirmed, 16. Baptized : adults, 11 ; infants, 10. Married, 8. Buried, 14.

ALEXANDER H. VINTON, *Rector*.

#### ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, *Jamestown*.

A Bible class of about 25 has been instructed every Sunday morning at the north school-house, with prayer (generally the Litany) and practical remarks on the lesson.

The Sunday school, kept only in summer, has 15 scholars, 3 teachers, and a library of 80 volumes.

Divine service has been held in the church at half past 2, on Sunday afternoon. Our services have been thus restricted necessarily by the local circumstances of the parish extending over an island of some extent, having a large but scattered population, few roads, and these, in winter, well nigh impassable.

Communicants, 4. Baptisms, 2.

JOHN SUDDARDS, *Minister*.

#### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, *Portsmouth*.

Communicants : removed, 2 ; added, 1 ; present number, 18. Baptisms : infants, 2. Marriages, 2. Sunday school : teachers, 5 ; scholars about 25. Volumes in the library, 160.



During the year ending on Easter last, the Ladies' Sewing Circle paid into the treasury of the Convocation \$50. Since the last Convention this parish has experienced a severe affliction in the death of its beloved and lamented pastor, Rev. Robert E. Northam, who departed this life October 29th, in the firm hope of a better life beyond the grave.

The present Rector entered upon his duties early in December. He has no report to make which indicates that his ministry hitherto has been attended with any striking success. Yet, amidst multiplied discouragements, may be discerned some tokens of good. It may not be too much to ask, that they who love the prosperity of Zion should, in their hours of favored approach to the throne of the heavenly grace, remember St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.

MILTON WARD, *Rector.*

EMANUEL CHURCH, *Mannville.*

The records of this church present the following statistics: Communicants, 7. Marriages, 1. Funerals, 9. Sunday school: average attendance from 80 to 90; teachers, 10. Volumes in library, 150.

Within the last year God has smiled upon us, and we have reason to acknowledge his goodness, both in regard to the temporal and spiritual interests of our portion of this Diocese. In the report made to this Convention notice was taken of the enlargement of the building in which religious services had previously been held. Since then this undertaking has been completed, and in such a shape that it may be said in every point of view to be a new edifice. Nothing is wanting, in all that is required for the full enjoyment of the services of the sanctuary. The building is now ready for consecration, which, by Divine permission, will be solemnized at the visitation of the Bishop, on the 21st of next month. When we consider our progress in this respect, we have much reason to say, hitherto hath the Lord helped us; but we have still further and higher cause for gratitude in the fact that God has visited us by the influences of his Holy Spirit, and that a number of souls have been gathered in, as the living stones of a holy and spiritual temple. We trust that this is but the day of small things with us, and that we shall



be blessed with still greater accessions to the trophies of redeeming grace.

At the Bishop's visitation we shall have seven candidates for confirmation, and an effectual basis will then be laid for the extension of Christ's cause in this portion of the church.

Our Sunday school is in a very flourishing condition. It has been gradually but steadily increasing. Both scholars and teachers exhibit a lively interest in the exercises of the school, and in two instances we have reason to believe that the instruction has been blessed to the lambs of the flock.

Our Sewing Circle promises to be an efficient instrument for good. The ladies of the parish have shown a very commendable zeal in making many sacrifices to attend the meetings of the society, and in accumulating its resources. The purity of their efforts we trust will be seen in the sanctification of their own souls, as well as in the general prosperity of Zion.

It is hoped that these are the first fruits of a rich harvest of blessings. We believe it is the Lord's doing, and that what he has begun he will graciously accomplish.

SAMUEL PENNY, JR. *Rector.*

### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, *Wickford.*

This is one of the oldest parishes in New England, having been established in the earliest part of the last century. It has, like many of our parishes, passed through a variety of vicissitudes and trials; having experienced some periods of very flattering prosperity, as well as seasons of severe adversity. The period at which the present incumbent assumed the charge thereof was not distinguished for any very cheering indications of prosperity, (as I have been informed,) neither was its condition so low and depressed as at some former periods. The health of my immediate predecessor had become so much impaired that he was unable to bestow upon it the amount of pastoral labor which he desired, or its interests required. Hence he was induced to resort to the painful alternative of resigning it into other hands. It was under these circumstances that I accepted of the unanimous call of the corporation to become their Rector, and entered upon the duties in the early part of August last; since which a merciful Providence has conferred upon me

such a measure of health and strength as has enabled me to discharge all the duties required, with scarcely an interruption. It has been my uniform custom to preach three times on the Lord's day, and to hold one, and a portion of the time two, lectures during the week, besides other occasional services during the season of Lent. These means of grace, we rejoice to believe, have been signally blessed of God. Our congregations on Sundays and at the weekly lectures have increased in a very encouraging degree, while the preaching of the gospel has been attended, in several instances at least, with its legitimate effects, namely, the conversion of souls. On the whole, we think the prospects of our little parish, though it be indeed a "little parish," are favorable. At any rate, the spirit and the zeal which at present characterizes this little flock certainly gives them a claim upon the prayers, the sympathy, and the aid of all who love Christ and his church.

There have been, since I commenced my labors in this church,—baptisms: infants, 4; adults, 6; total, 10. Confirmed, 9. Funerals, 6. Marriages, 1. Communicants: died, 1; added, 13; present number, 45. Sunday school: teachers, 12; scholars, 75. Volumes in library, a little short of 300.

JOHN H. ROUSE, *Rector.*

#### CHRIST CHURCH, *Lonsdale.*

The Rector commenced his labors in the parish of Christ Church in July last. Since that time there have been,—marriages, 6; funerals, 9; baptisms, 6, 4 adults and 2 infants; confirmations, 15. One has been added to the church. Removals, 2. Deceased, 1. The present number of communicants is 53. There has always been a sewing circle in successful operation in this parish. A maternal association has been recently formed, and we shall be greatly disappointed if it does not prove subservient to the cause of Christian education. The Sunday school is large, and unusually interesting. The average attendance of scholars and teachers has of late been more than 120. A school for young ladies has been opened in the vestry of the church by a highly accomplished teacher, in which instruction will be given in all the branches of a complete education. Could not much, very much, be done for the promotion of Christ's kingdom and

the salvation of the world, by establishing parochial schools, where the sublime and unerring truths of Christianity should be made the basis of all other instruction? The general condition of this parish, if I am rightly informed, has never been more prosperous.

CHARLES C. TAYLOR, *Rector*.

### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, *Bristol*.

Owing to the Rector's continued ill health during the past year, the care of this parish has devolved almost altogether on the assistant minister, the Rev. Thomas F. Fales, whose labors we hope have been blessed to the gathering in of some souls, and the serious seeking of others. Communicants: added, 11; died and left, 6; whole number, 292. Confirmed, 10. Burials, 14. Baptisms: adults, 3; infants, 2. Marriages, 5. The Sunday school connected with the church numbers, as the average attendance, 150 scholars, 24 teachers, and 2 librarians. The library of the school contains about 300 volumes. There has been of late an encouraging improvement in the discipline of the school, and a number of new and faithful teachers have been added. From one of the classes three have lately connected themselves with the church; and, although there is nothing farther of special interest to be noticed, the school may be said to be more flourishing than it has been for some time before. The religious services of the past year have been, on Sunday morning a prayer-meeting, morning and afternoon a sermon, and in the evening a lecture; Thursday and Saturday evenings of each week meetings for social worship; teachers' meeting on Friday evening; female prayer-meeting on Tuesday afternoon; monthly concerts of prayer for missions, Sunday schools, and seamen. There has been regular pastoral visiting. The Maternal Association still continues. For the Missionary Convocation, the Education Society, the general Missionary Board of the Church, and for other religious and charitable objects, \$2,069 have been raised during the year.

JOHN BRISTED, *Rector*.

### ZION CHURCH, *Newport*.

The Rector of this parish respectfully reports to this Convention as follows: Marriages, 3. Baptisms, 11; 5 adults and 6

infants. Confirmations, 10. Communicants: added, 22; removed, 17; total, 151. Sunday school: scholars, 343; average attendance, 216; teachers, 32. Bible class: members, 24. Books in library, 976.

An unusual number of communicants have been removed, and several transferred to Trinity Church. The number of persons confirmed does not show the extent of the Divine goodness manifested to us during the last year, as a much larger number of candidates have postponed this public profession of their faith for a short time. The general state of this parish was perhaps never in so prosperous a condition as it has been during the last six months, except in the depression of its pecuniary affairs, which it has suffered in common with the whole community. In every department its growth has been quickened during the past year. The Sunday school has greatly increased. The attendance on public worship has on an average exceeded that of any former year. The services of our Convocation, in October last year, were attended with unusually happy effects on the hearts of Christians. Our Lent services were greatly blessed. God indeed has been very good to us, and we have only occasion to lament that we have not been more faithful in the improvement of his favors. But if he has remembered mercy, he has remembered it in the midst of judgment. Death has cast a gloom over many families. And the personal misfortune with which it has pleased God to visit the Rector has been a severe deprivation of his services to the parish, but I hope a sanctified affliction to us both.

We owe much, as heretofore, to the Ladies' Convocation Society; and their labors have done much to relieve the parish from severe embarrassment.

Notwithstanding these encouraging views, there is much to dishearten us in the existence of an unextinguished debt, the difficulty of providing promptly for the necessary expenses of the parish, and, above all, in a backwardness to seize upon and improve the rich divine mercies so largely showered upon us. We have reason to pray that God would not visit us with a dearth of spiritual blessings, in just displeasure for want of greater faithfulness.

JOHN WEST, *Rector.*



CHURCH OF ASCENSION, *Wakefield.*

This parish was resigned by the Rector on the Sunday preceding Easter, he having accepted the parish of Christ Church, Westerly. The Church of the Ascension was at that time under encouraging circumstances. The unfavorable prejudices of those not acquainted with, or unaccustomed to, the formalities of our Church, were much conciliated. The congregation became more stable, affording some hopeful symptoms of good being done. And, whilst the kindest feelings subsisted between the pastor and his flock, a very excellent spirit was exercised towards the Episcopal Church by other denominations of Christians. A Bible class had been established and had become encouraging. The Sunday school received additions in scholars and teachers, and a service on Wednesday evening was well attended.

The Rector, in naming a trying dispensation of Providence, would record, with deep humility and gratitude to God, the sanctified use it appeared to have upon the people of his charge, and upon the neighborhood, and he trusts upon his own family; and he would be culpable of neglect not to mention the affectionate interest felt and expressed by his congregation and neighbors, and his friends at Kingston; and he remembers with much esteem the sympathy and kindness expressed by the Rev. Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, and his parishioners.

In this church there are 9 communicants. Baptized, 1. Burials, 2. Marriages, 1. Sunday school: teachers, 5; scholars, 23. Volumes in library, 60.

W. H. NEWMAN, *late Rector.*

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, *Tower Hill.*

I resigned this parish a few weeks before Easter Sunday, and I regret that I have no cheering communications to make. The scattered state of the population, the number of persons weak and infirm through age, the state of the roads, and the inclemency of the weather in winter, are considerable obstacles in the way to the growth of this parish increasing. There are also other circumstances which apparently paralyze ministerial efforts, and leave any good produced to subside into a quiescent state: these



things, with others, to all human appearance, will continue until another generation is raised up.

The number of communicants remains the same. I have had 1 funeral, and 1 marriage. The school, very promising in summer, was relinquished in the winter. I would, however, under all circumstances, respectfully recommend the parish to the attention of the Missionary Convocation.

W. H. NEWMAN, *late Rector.*

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, *North Providence.*

Communicants, 150. Baptisms, 28. Marriages, 24. Funerals, 7 in my own parish, and 45 out of it. Sunday school: scholars, 150; teachers, 26; Bible classes, 3; volumes in library, about 500. Raised for missions, \$200; for education, \$25.

There is now a pleasing attention to the subject of religion in this parish. I have lately added 8 to the communion. There are now several candidates for baptism. The condition of the parish may be represented as prosperous.

GEORGE TAFT.

CHRIST CHURCH, *Westerly.*

The present Rector entered upon his parish at Easter. It is well known how much this church has had to struggle with since the removal of their first pastor, the Rev. James Pratt. The writer is gratified to find that, although the congregation has become exceedingly reduced, the communicants have been retained together in Christian love by lay services. The wardens and vestry, with other active members, have endured their privations with patience and perseverance. But the church's destitution of a pastor, the removal of some families, and the instability of a few in the day of adversity, with the death of some beloved in the Lord, have for a time spread a discouraging aspect over the interests of our Zion. The cause of Christ and the church have experienced a great loss in the lamented death of Rouse Babcock, Esq. who was a tried friend to the parish.

The Rector would speak with diffidence in saying, the prospect is more cheering for these last few weeks. The leading members appreciate the privilege of renewed exertions, and endeavor, by all means, to strengthen their pastor's hands and en-

courage his heart. The state of the school is encouraging, the teachers having exerted themselves to increase the number of scholars, and, especially by a regular application to their duty, have devoted themselves to their good work.

The Ladies' Sewing Circle has, I believe, never been suspended, having survived all trials, and is now in operation, and devoted to its object with the ardor and perseverance pertaining to female piety.

The statistics of the parish are as follows: Buried, 3. Baptized, 1. Deceased, 2. Number of communicants, 81. Sunday school: teachers, 15; scholars, 80; volumes in library, 200.

W. H. NEWMAN, *Rector.*

#### ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, *Providence.*

Added to the communion, about 20. Removed by death, 2. Whole number of communicants, 70. Confirmed, 3. Married, 1. Buried, 4. Collected since October last, by weekly offerings, for Foreign and Domestic Missions, \$52 82; by the Ladies' Sewing Circle, for Convocation, \$80; by communion offerings and other contributions, \$59 04: total, \$191 86.

The Sunday school, though not as large as formerly, in consequence of other schools being opened in the neighborhood, embraces all the children of the parish, and is constantly receiving accessions by families added to the church. The number of scholars in regular attendance is 70, inclusive of the Bible class of young ladies; teachers, 13; volumes in the library, 270.

From the statement of the teachers we are encouraged to believe that some of the younger children have been religiously impressed by the study of divine truth. There is a growing seriousness in the parish, which is becoming more and more apparent. A few are now desirous of being confirmed, and their number will doubtless be enlarged, if a faithful and efficient minister is procured to watch over the first kindlings of religious interest in some reflecting minds. It is with no common solicitude that these members of the flock are left by the subscriber without pastoral instruction; but he commends them to the faithful Shepherd of our Israel, relying on the promises of Divine watch and protection. Since the last report, a neat and beautiful edifice has been consecrated as "St. Stephen's Church," by

the Rt. Rev. Bishop Griswold. The edifice, including its appurtenances, and an organ of uncommon richness, and furniture for the pews, entailed a debt upon the church of \$12,000;—\$7,000 of which has been defrayed by the sale of pews and by subscriptions: the remaining \$5,000, as yet unpaid, is the only cloud now shading the prospect of this interesting parish,—a cloud, however, which we trust will be speedily dispelled under an active and faithful Rector.

The parish have to acknowledge their indebtedness to Joseph S. Cooke, Esq. member of the vestry, for a bell he has kindly furnished to the church. The Ladies' Sewing Circle has been unusually successful during the past year.

Services have been duly held in St. Stephen's Church on Sundays and holydays, besides a lecture on Sunday evenings for a large proportion of the year, and a weekly catechetical lecture since the completion of the lecture-room. The children have been occasionally catechized in church, in the presence of the congregation.

May God ever bless and smile upon this people. His Providence alone has been their support. "As an eagle spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh her young and beareth them on her wings," so the Lord alone hath led them hitherto, and we trust he will ever continue to sustain them so long as they depend upon his care.

GEORGE LEEDS, *late officiating Minister.*

#### ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, *East Greenwich.*

I assumed the charge of this parish July 12th, 1840. The congregation had been without regular service for more than two months previous to that time. I found the attendance upon the services quite small, and the general appearance of the parish discouraging. Since I have been there, I have seen some favorable changes in the state of things. Our attendance has increased. Several adults have been baptized. The Sunday school has become flourishing, and the Ladies' Sewing Society have aided in support of the church in a most efficient and commendable degree. There have been 8 baptisms, 3 of them infants and 5 adults. Seven communicants have been added to the church. Total number at present, 26. Funerals, 7, only three of which,

however, were of my parish. Our Sunday school has 45 scholars who are regular attendants, and 10 teachers.

These statistics show that it is the day of small things with us; and this will especially appear if we are compared with churches in towns and villages whose trade has not been prostrated, and the spirit of whose inhabitants has not been broken by reverses. We have been thus circumstanced. But I am confident that when all the communicants of St. Luke's shall feel more powerfully actuated by the mighty motive of "Christ constraining them," then glorious things will be told of the city of our God.

W. H. MOORE.

#### ST. MARK'S CHURCH, *Warren.*

The undersigned is happy to report this church as in the continued enjoyment of the Divine favor and blessing.

There have been, during the year, — marriages, 1. Burials, 12. Baptisms, 18; 14 adults, and 4 infants. Communicants: died, 2; removed, 6; added, 19; present number, 125. Weekly offerings to Easter, \$294 99½. Other contributions for religious and benevolent objects, \$1,225.

The Sunday school is flourishing, and has been favored in the conversion of several, both teachers and scholars. The ladies' societies, of which there are three, pursue their labors of love with much interest and success.

During the year a neat clock has been placed in front of the gallery of the church; and the outside of the church and the fence around the church-yard is now being painted. A new and convenient house adjoining the church has recently been purchased by one of our wealthy communicants for the use of the Rector's family, and which will add greatly to their comfort. For all which mercies, both spiritual and temporal, we desire to record a hearty gratitude to the great Giver of all good.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, *Rector.*

#### ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, *Woonsocket.*

There have been during the past conventional year,—baptisms, 11; 3 adults, and 8 infants. Marriages, 4. Funerals, 12. Added to the communion, 7; removed, 3; died, 2; erased from the list, 3; present number, 67.



Two services are usually celebrated on the Lord's day, and one during the week. For a quarter part of the year, a missionary meeting is held on the first Sunday evening of each month. The church has also been opened on all the leading festivals and fasts of the Christian year. The attendance of the congregation on the ordinary occasions of public worship is very good. The missionary "offerings" of the parish, during the year ending December last, amounted to \$134. We circulate 25 copies of "the Spirit of Missions." The Ladies' Sewing Circle, I am happy to report, still continues its benevolent and valuable labors: during the year ending on Easter Tuesday, they succeeded in raising \$120 over and above all expenses.

In the Sunday school are 15 teachers; 115 pupils. Usual attendance, 75. Volumes in library, 300. We receive 50 copies of the "Children's Magazine," and 12 copies of the "Journal of Christian Education." The general condition of the parish is flourishing.

HENRY WATERMAN.

*Report of the Rev. LEMUEL BURGE.*

The undersigned, since the acceptance of his resignation of the parish of St. Paul's Church, Wickford, (which was on the 27th of April, 1840, more than one year after it was tendered,) has performed services as follows: Preached twice in St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich, once in St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill, and once in Ascension Church, Wakefield; and also on two funeral occasions, in South Kingston. He has also performed divine service and preached several times in Wickford; and generally has assisted his reverend brother in the administration of the holy supper.

LEMUEL BURGE, *Minister.*



## I.

**Rules of Order and a Standing Order of Business,**

OF THE

Convention of the Church in the Diocese of Rhode Island.

## I. RULES OF ORDER.

1. WHEN the President takes the chair, no member shall continue standing, or shall afterwards stand up, except to address the chair.

2. The members of the Convention shall sit in pews contiguous to one another, — the delegates of each church occupying one pew.

3. No member shall absent himself from the Convention unless he have leave, or be unable to attend.

4. No leave of absence shall be indefinitely granted to any member, unless full and sufficient reasons be given by him to the Convention.

5. All special committees shall be appointed by the President, unless otherwise ordered by the Convention.

6. A question being once determined shall stand as the judgment of the Convention, and shall not again be drawn into debate during the session, unless with the consent of two thirds of the members present.

7. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the Convention, he shall rise, and with due respect address himself to the President, and confine himself strictly to the point in debate.

8. When two members chance to rise at the same time, the President shall determine to whom the preference shall be given ; and all questions of order the President shall decide, — subject to an appeal to the Convention.

9. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave.

10. No motion shall be acted upon until seconded, and, when required, reduced to writing.

11. While the President is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private conversation to the interruption of the Convention.

12. Every member, who is in the Convention when any question is put, shall, on a division, be counted, unless he be personally interested in the question, or excused by the President.

13. When a motion is under consideration, no other motion shall be made, except to postpone, to amend, to divide, or to commit.

14. A motion for amendment or postponement shall be considered as the previous question, and be decided before the original motion.

15. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

16. The yeas and nays shall be called and entered on the minutes, when required by one fifth of the members present.

17. At the request of the President, or on motion, the Convention may resolve itself into a Committee of the whole.

18. All elections, when required by two members, shall be by ballot.

19. All other questions shall be decided *viva voce*, or by hand vote, unless a ballot be called for by two members.

20. The sittings of the Convention shall be open to all persons who choose to attend, unless otherwise ordered by the Convention.

21. After the first day the minutes of the preceding day shall be read each morning at the opening of the Convention, and, if necessary, corrected; and, before the rising of the Convention, the whole proceedings of the session shall be read.

22. When the Convention is about to rise, every member shall keep his seat until the President leaves his chair.

23. None of the Rules of Order shall be suspended, without the consent of two thirds of the members present.

24. The foregoing Rules of Order shall be read at the opening of every Convention, and shall be of force, unless repealed by a vote of the Convention.

## II. STANDING ORDER OF BUSINESS.

After the organization of the Convention, as provided for by the Constitution, the following order of business shall be observed for the first day of the session.

I. The business incident to the organization of the Convention, embracing the consideration of applications of churches or parishes for admission into union with the Convention ; reports from special committees appointed at a preceding session of the Convention, &c.

II. Regular annual reports, in the following order :

1. Report from the *Treasurer* of the Convention.
2. Report from the *Standing Committee*.
3. Report from the *Board of Missions*.
4. Report from the *Board of Education*.
5. Report from the *Board of Sunday Schools*.
6. Parochial Reports.
7. Miscellaneous business.

The following order of business shall be observed for the second day of the Convention :

I. Miscellaneous business.

II. Elections, —

1. Of Treasurer.
2. Of Standing Committee.
3. Board of Missions.
4. Board of Education.
5. Board of Sunday Schools.
6. Delegates to the General Convention.
7. Preachers for next Convention.

Miscellaneous business.

**K.****CONSTITUTION**

OF THE

**Prot. Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Rhode Island,**

AS RATIFIED AND ADOPTED

AT ITS FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION, HOLDEN AT TRINITY  
CHURCH, NEWPORT, R. I. JUNE, 1841.**ARTICLE I.**

THIS Church accedes to the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and also to the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese.

**ARTICLE II.**

There shall be a stated Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Diocese on the second Tuesday in June, in each year, at such hour and in such place as the Convention shall determine. Special meetings may be called by the Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee. If the episcopate be vacant, special meetings may be called by the Standing Committee. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting, other than is specified in the notice calling such meeting.

**ARTICLE III.**

Every Convention shall be opened with prayer, followed by a sermon, or by an address from the Bishop, and the celebration of the Lord's supper; after which the President and Secretary of the preceding Convention shall take their places, when the Secretary shall call the names of the Clergy and the Lay Delegates. The Secretary of the Convention shall then be chosen, and the records of the preceding Convention shall be read, and the necessary committees appointed. The morning service of the Church,

or a special service appointed by the Bishop, shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention.

#### ARTICLE IV.

The Bishop shall preside in the Convention ; but, when absent, the President shall be chosen by ballot from among the clerical members of the Convention.

#### ARTICLE V.

The Convention shall be composed of the clergy officiating in the parishes in this Diocese ; and also of such clergymen as are employed as instructors in any incorporated seminary of learning in this Diocese ; and of missionaries officiating in this Diocese, under the direction of the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese ; and of ministers whose age and infirmities prevent the exercise of their clerical functions ; and of chaplains of army and navy of the United States belonging to this Diocese ; and also of Lay Delegates, not exceeding four, from each parish in union with this Convention, who shall present certificates, signed by the Wardens or the parish Clerk, that they are duly chosen.

#### ARTICLE VI.

New parishes may, by a vote of this Convention, be admitted into union with it, on presenting written evidence, under the authority of the Wardens and Vestry, that they are duly organized, and accede to the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention, and also of the Convention of this Diocese.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The Convention being duly organized, the members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business ; and upon all questions the members shall deliberate in one body, and in voting shall vote by individuals. But if in any case it be required by any three members, the two orders shall vote separately ; and in such case the laity shall vote by congregations ; and the concurrence of both orders shall be necessary to constitute a decision.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The Secretary shall be chosen by ballot from among the members of the Convention, and he shall remain in office until the next Convention, and until the appointment of a successor.



## ARTICLE IX.

A Treasurer, who shall be a layman, shall be elected annually, and shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Convention. It shall be his duty to render to the Convention an annual report, in writing, of his doings, and of the state of the treasury.

## ARTICLE X.

A Standing Committee, consisting of three clergymen and three laymen, who shall be communicants of this Church, shall be appointed by the Convention annually, and shall continue in office until the election of a new committee. They shall keep a record of their proceedings, and shall report the same to the Convention at its annual meeting. A majority shall be a quorum for all purposes, except those for which the Canons of the General Convention require a larger number.

## ARTICLE XI.

Deputies to the General Convention shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting next preceding the meeting of the General Convention, and shall continue in office at least three years. The clerical deputies shall be nominated by the clergy, and the lay deputies by the laity; and the persons so nominated shall then be chosen by a concurrent vote of the two orders. Should any delegate decline such appointment, he shall, within one month after his appointment, so inform the Bishop, or (if there be no Bishop) the president of the Standing Committee; whereupon the Bishop, or (if there be no Bishop) the Standing Committee, shall forthwith provide a substitute.

## ARTICLE XII.

Whenever the episcopate shall become vacant, the Standing Committee shall call a special Convention, to be held in the city of Providence within three months after such vacancy shall have occurred, and shall give written notice of the same at least four weeks previous to said meeting to each parish in union with the Convention. The Convention, thus assembled, may immediately proceed to the election of a Bishop, or make any other provision for the episcopal supervision of the Diocese.

## ARTICLE XIII.

The election of a Bishop shall proceed in the following manner: The two orders having separated, the clergy shall appoint,

by ballot, a person for that office ; whereupon their choice shall be made known to the order of Lay Delegates ; and, if approved of by them, the candidate so appointed shall be declared to be duly elected. In any such election, a majority of each order shall determine the choice.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

Canons for the government of the Church, and Rules of Order for the conducting of business, may be adopted from time to time by the Convention.

#### ARTICLE XV.

The mode of altering this Constitution shall be as follows : A proposition of amendment shall be introduced in writing, and considered in the Convention ; and, if approved of in that Convention, by a majority of the two orders, voting thereon separately, the change shall take place, and the Constitution shall be valid and obligatory.

NOTE. The above Constitution was approved by the last Annual Convention, and submitted to this Convention for their final action, agreeably to the provision of Article IX. of the old Constitution, and has been accordingly considered, ratified, and ADOPTED.

FRANCIS VINTON, *Secretary.*

## L.

## Canons

ADOPTED AT

## THE FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, HOLDEN AT TRINITY CHURCH,  
NEWPORT, R. I. JUNE 8 AND 9, 1841.

## CANON I.

*Offences for which Ministers may be tried.*

DISORDERLY, scandalous, and immoral conduct; neglect of duty; engaging in any worldly avocations palpably incompatible with the clerical office and the due discharge of pastoral duty; disregard of the Constitution and Canons of the General and Diocesan Conventions; a continued non-attendance at the Annual Convention of the Church in this Diocese; disseminating or countenancing opinions contrary to the doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States,—are offences for which a clergyman ought to be censured, and for which, when accused, he may be brought to trial.

## CANON II.

*Mode of trying Clergymen.*

If any clergyman of this Church offend in any one or more of the instances enumerated in the foregoing Canon, complaint may be made to the Standing Committee, which shall be done in writing by two persons, who shall be communicants, and one of whom shall be a presbyter of this Church.

The Standing Committee, if they deem the charges well founded, shall present said clergyman to the Bishop for trial.

The Bishop shall thereupon summon a jury of three presby-

ters, who shall be the judges both of the law and the facts: the Standing Committee shall act as prosecutors in the case, and shall give the accused a copy of the charges presented to the Bishop, and also sixty days' notice of the time and place of the trial. Neither party shall employ a layman as advocate.

If the accused shall not appear at the trial, the judgment of the court shall proceed against him by default, and he shall be suspended from the exercise of his clerical functions for the space of six months. And if, during that period, he shall not apply for a trial, he shall then be degraded from the ministry.

The judgment of the court shall in all cases be made known in writing to the accused, and to the Vestry of his church, together with the charges and specifications, and an outline of the evidence produced on the trial, if it shall be demanded by the accused.

If the Bishop approve the judgment, he shall, within thirty days, proceed to administer the discipline prescribed by the court.

Should the Bishop disapprove the decision of the court, he may, at his discretion, summon a new court, and order a new trial; and the judgment of the second court shall be final, and the Bishop shall then proceed to execute it as above.

### CANON III.

#### *Discipline of Communicants.*

Communicants who shall neglect the holy communion, or an attendance on public worship, for the space of six months, without a reason satisfactory to the Rector of the church, shall be suspended from the communion. For any other offences the manner of discipline shall be as follows:

The Rector shall first admonish the offender; and, if there shall within a reasonable time appear no satisfactory proof of repentance, the Rector shall forthwith repel him from the communion.

In every instance of repelling, the Rector shall give notice to the Bishop, (as provided in the 42d Canon of the General Convention.) Should the communicant so repelled appeal to the Bishop, the Bishop shall summon a council of four presbyters, of which he shall be president, to decide upon the case. Should



the council reverse the judgment of the Rector, the repelled communicant is restored ; and, should they confirm his decision, the communicant is repelled.

#### CANON IV.

##### *Board of Missions.*

The missionary operations of the Church in this Diocese shall be conducted by a Board of Missions, to be called the Missionary Convocation of the Church in Rhode Island, consisting of such of the Clergy in the Diocese, entitled to seats in the Convention, as shall pledge to the treasury of the Board, for the missionary purposes of the same, an annual sum equal to at least one tenth of their respective salaries. The Board shall report annually to the Convention their proceedings, together with an account of their receipts and expenditures, and a general statement of the condition and prospects of their missionary stations.

The Bishop of the Diocese shall be, *ex officio*, President of the Board, and no appointment of Missionaries shall be made unless approved of by him, according to the condition of the 30th Canon of the General Convention.

Whenever a Missionary is to be employed without a call from the parish, the Bishop shall have a concurrent voice in his appointment.

The Treasurer of this Board shall be a layman of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

#### CANON V.

##### *Board of Education.*

There shall be appointed annually by the Convention a Board of Education, consisting of two clergymen and one layman, to whom shall be intrusted the appointment of young men to be educated for the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church. A report of their doings shall be presented annually to the Convention, and pledges shall be solicited from the clergy and laity of the several churches for the objects of the Board.

The beneficiaries of the Board shall be subject to its direction and control, except in those instances when a church or an indi-



vidual shall alone establish a scholarship, contributing a sum not less than seventy-five dollars, when the church or individual so contributing shall appoint and direct the education of the incumbent. If any scholarship so instituted shall be vacant for the space of six months, the money pledged for its support shall still be paid and applied to the general purposes of the Board.

## CANON VI.

*Board of Sunday Schools.*

There shall be appointed annually, by the Convention, a Board of Sunday Schools of the Church within the Diocese, to consist of two clergymen and one layman. The said Board shall organize themselves by electing a Chairman and Secretary, and shall make an annual statistical report of the Sunday schools within the Diocese, accompanied with such facts and suggestions as they shall deem to be interesting and calculated to promote the Sunday school cause.

## CANON VII.

*Bishop's Fund.*

Contributions of the Parishes in this Diocese for the support of the Bishop shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Convention, who shall transmit the same to the Treasurer of the Eastern Diocesan Convention, and report annually to this Convention.

## CANON VIII.

*Alterations of the Canons.*

Forasmuch as frequent legislation, or any needless fluctuation in the rules and regulations of the Church is to be avoided, as being both troublesome and dangerous, it is hereby declared that no alteration in the Canons of the Diocese shall be made, unless it be approved and confirmed by a majority of both orders.

### NOTICE.

The next Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode Island will be held in St. Michael's Church, Bristol, on the *second* Tuesday in June, 1842, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

FRANCIS VINTON,

*Secretary of the Convention.*

*Newport, June, 1841.*

JOURNAL  
OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF THE  
**Protestant Episcopal Church**  
IN THE  
EASTERN DIOCESE,  
HELD IN  
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CHARLESTOWN,  
SEPTEMBER 28, 1842.  
~~~~~  
WITH THE  
BISHOP'S ADDRESS.  
~~~~~

BOSTON:  
JAMES B. DOW, 362 WASHINGTON STREET,  
OFFICE OF THE WITNESS AND ADVOCATE.  
1842.

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*William A. Hall & Co., Printers, 12 Water street.*

# LIST OF THE CLERGY

OF THE

Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese.

NOVEMBER, A. D. 1842.

---

The Rt. Rev. ALEXANDER VIETS GRISWOLD, D. D.  
Bishop of the Eastern Diocese.

## Maine.

The Rev. WILLIAM R. BABCOCK, Rector of Christ Church, Gardiner.

The Rev. JOHN BLAKE, officiating at Houlton.

The Rev. FREDERICK FREEMAN, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Augusta.

The Rev. ELEZER A. GREENLEAF.

The Rev. JAMES PRATT, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Portland.

The Rev. JOHN WEST, Rector of St. John's Church, Bangor.

## Massachusetts.

The Rev. ETHAN ALLEN, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Otis.

The Rev. SAMUEL B. BABCOCK, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Dedham.

The Rev. EDWARD BALLARD, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Pittsfield.

The Rev. WILLIAM S. BARTLET, officiating in Mount Zion Church, Chelsea.

The Rev. HENRY H. BATES, officiating in St. Mark's Church, Blandford.



The Rev. ALFRED L. BAURY, Rector of St. Mary's Church,  
Newton Lower Falls.

The Rev. NATHANIEL T. BENT, Rector of St. Thomas' Church,  
Taunton.

The Rev. HENRY BLACKALLER, Rector of Trinity Church, Bridge-  
water.

The Rev. JOHN L. BLAKE, D. D. residing in New York.

The Rev. SILAS BLAISDALE, Rector of St. James' Church, Ames-  
bury.

The Rev. ISAAC BOYLE, D. D. Treasurer of the Bishop's Fund,  
occasionally officiating, Boston.

The Rev. THOMAS M. CLARK, Rector of Grace Church, Boston.

The Rev. ORANGE CLARK, D. D. officiating at St. John's Church,  
Northampton.

The Rev. JOSEPH H. CLINCH, Rector of St. Matthew's Church,  
South Boston.

The Rev. WILLIAM COOK, Deacon, teaching a school in Salem.

The Rev. SAMUEL CUTLER, Rector of St. Andrew's Church,  
Hanover.

The Rev. THEODORE EDSON, Rector of St. Anne's Church,  
Lowell.

The Rev. JUSTIN FIELD, Jr. Rector of St. John's Chapel, Jamaica  
Plain, Roxbury.

The Rev. FRANCIS A. FOXCROFT.

The Rev. SAMUEL FULLER, D. D. Rector of Christ Church,  
Andover.

The Rev. DANIEL L. B. GOODWIN, Rector of St. John's Church,  
Wilkinsonville.

The Rev. PATRICK H. GREENLEAF, Rector of St. John's Church,  
Charlestown.

The Rev. SAMUEL HASSARD, Rector of St. James' Church, Great  
Barrington.

The Rev. NICHOLAS HOPPIN, Rector of Christ Church, Cam-  
bridge.

The Rev. M. A. D'W. HOWE, Rector of St. James' Church, Rox-  
bury.

The Rev. THOMAS R. LAMBERT, Rector of Grace Church, New  
Bedford.

The Rev. DANIEL LEACH, Principal of the Latin and English  
High School, Roxbury.

- The Rev. HENRY W. LEE, Rector of Christ Church, Springfield.
- The Rev. GEORGE LEEDS, officiating in Trinity Church, Boston.
- The Rev. CHARLES MASON, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Salem.
- The Rev. SAMUEL M'BURNEY, Minister of a Free Church, and City Missionary, Boston.
- The Rev. AMOS D. M'COY, Rector of St. Luke's Church, Lowell.
- The Rev. BENJAMIN C. C. PARKER.
- The Rev. SAMUEL P. PARKER, Minister of St. Paul's Church, Stockbridge, and Trinity Church, Van Deusenville.
- The Rev. JACOB PEARSON, Rector of St. John's Church, Ashfield.
- The Rev. EMORY M. PORTER, Deacon.
- The Rev. FERNANDO C. PUTNAM, officiating in Christ Church, Clappville.
- The Rev. GEORGE M. RANDALL, Rector of the Church of the Ascension, Fall River.
- The Rev. JOHN P. ROBINSON, Rector of Christ Church, Quincy.
- The Rev. SAMUEL B. SHAW, Rector of St. Luke's Church, Lanesborough.
- The Rev. THEODORE W. SNOW.
- The Rev. EDWARD J. STEARNS.
- The Rev. MOSES P. STICKNEY, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Marblehead.
- The Rev. TITUS STRONG, D. D. Rector of St. James' Church, Greenfield.
- The Rev. SAMUEL A. TAYLOR, Deacon.
- The Rev. ALEXANDER H. VINTON, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Boston.
- The Rev. FREDERICK WADLEIGH.
- The Rev. GEORGE WATERS, officiating in Lenox.
- The Rev. JOHN L. WATSON, Assistant Minister on the Greene Foundation, Trinity Church, Boston.
- The Rev. E. M. P. WELLS, Rector of the School of Moral Discipline, South Boston.
- The Rev. WILLIAM A. WHITE, Deacon.
- The Rev. WILLIAM WITHINGTON.
- The Rev. JOHN WOART, Rector of Christ Church, Boston.
- The Rev. CALVIN WOLCOTT, officiating in St. Andrew's Church, Hopkinton, New Hampshire.

### Rhode Island.

The Rev. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

The Rev. LEMUEL BURGE, residing in Wickford.

The Rev. JAMES H. CARPENTER, Deacon.

The Rev. AZEL D. COLE, officiating in St. James' Church, Woonsocket.

The Rev. SILAS A. CRANE, Rector of St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich.

The Rev. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.

The Rev. JAMES H. EAMES, officiating in Wakefield, South Kingston.

The Rev. THOMAS F. FALES, Assistant Minister of St. Michael's Church, Bristol.

The Rev. SAMUEL GOODALE, Deacon.

The Rev. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren.

The Rev. WILLIAM H. NEWMAN, Rector of Christ Church, Westerly.

The Rev. SAMUEL PENNY, Jr. Rector of Emanuel Church, Mannville.

The Rev. THOMAS L. RANDOLPH, Deacon.

The Rev. JOHN H. ROUSE, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Wickford.

The Rev. JOHN SUDDARD, residing in Johnstown.

The Rev. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence.

The Rev. CHARLES C. TAYLOR, Rector of Christ Church, Lonsdale.

The Rev. FRANCIS VINTON, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

The Rev. MILTON WARD, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.

The Rev. HENRY WATERMAN, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Providence.

The Rev. BENJAMIN WATSON, Rector of Zion Church, Newport.

The Rev. JOHN WAYLAND, Deacon.

The Rev. ALEXANDER CRUMMELL, officiating in Christ Church, Providence.

# JOURNAL.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CHARLESTOWN, SEPT. 28, 1842.

THIS being the time and place for the meeting of the Convention of the Eastern Diocese, the Bishop took the chair at 9 o'clock, A. M., and called the Convention to order.

A list of the Clergy of the Diocese was then called, and the following persons answered to their names :

The RT. REV. ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD, D. D. Bishop of the Eastern Diocese.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rev. Samuel B. Babcock, | Rev. Charles Mason,   |
| “ Henry H. Bates,       | “ Samuel M'Burney,    |
| “ Alfred L. Baury,      | “ Amos D. McCoy,      |
| “ Silas Blaisdale,      | “ Benj. C. C. Parker, |
| “ Isaac Boyle, D. D.    | “ Samuel P. Parker,   |
| “ Thomas M. Clark,      | “ Fernando C. Putnam, |
| “ Joseph H. Clinch,     | “ George M. Randall,  |
| “ Samuel Cutler,        | “ John P. Robinson,   |
| “ Samuel Fuller, D. D.  | “ Samuel B. Shaw,     |
| “ Daniel L. B. Goodwin, | “ Theodore W. Snow,   |
| “ Patrick H. Greenleaf, | “ Moses P. Stickney,  |
| “ Samuel Hassard,       | “ Titus Strong, D. D. |
| “ Nicholas Hoppin,      | “ John Woart,         |
| “ Thomas R. Lambert,    | “ William Withington. |
| “ Henry W. Lee,         |                       |

## RHODE ISLAND.

|                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. | Rev. Samuel Penny, Jr. |
| “ Thomas M. Fales,            | “ Charles C. Taylor.   |
| “ Wm. H. Newman,              |                        |

The certificates of Lay Delegates being called for by the Bishop, were then presented, and read ; from which it appeared that the following persons had been duly appointed to represent,

in this Convention, the several churches from which they came. Those whose names are printed in *italics* answered to their names.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

*Trinity Church, Boston.* William D. Sohier, Edward H. Robbins, George M. Dexter.

*St. Paul's Church, Boston.* James C. Merrill.

*Christ Church, Boston.* Elias W. Goddard, William Munroe, C. P. Gordon.

*St. Paul's Church, Newburyport.* Edward S. Rand, Moses Merrill, Eliphalet Emery, Edmund Bartlett, Jr.

*St. Peter's Church, Salem.* Joseph Adams, John S. Harrison.

*St. James' Church, Roxbury.* Francis Hilliard, Ebenezer Rhodes, Thomas W. Haskins.

*Christ Church, Cambridge.* Isaac Lum, Luther Foote.

*Grace Church, Boston.* Charles R. Bond.

*St. Stephen's Church, Pittsfield.* Edward A. Newton.

*Grace Church, New Bedford.* Thomas Riddell, George W. Chevers, Levi L. Crane.

*St. Andrew's Church, Hanover.* James Waterman, Joseph C. Stockbridge, Gad J. Bailey.

*Mount Zion Church, Chelsea.* Ruggles Slack, Stephen D. Massey, William Knapp.

*St. Mary's Church, Newton Lower Falls.* Isaac Hager, Wyllys G. Eaton.

*Christ Church, Springfield.* James Barnes, E. D. Beach, William W. Lee.

*St. John's Church, Charlestown.* Phineas Capen, Andrew J. Lock, Joshua Bates, Jr.

*St. John's Church, Wilkinsonville.* Leroy Litchfield, E. R. Dodge, James Dudley.

*Church of the Ascension, Fall River.* Richard W. Batt, John Houghton, William Langford.

*St. Paul's Church, Dedham.* Ira Cleaveland, Elisha Thayer, John Bent.

*Trinity Church, Nantucket.* Thomas D. Morris, Samuel H. Jenks, Charles C. Myrick.

## RHODE ISLAND.

*Grace Church, Providence.* Alexander Hodges, S. Augustus Arnold, William T. Grinnell.



*St. Mark's Church, Warren. George Wheaton, William Pierce, James Gardner.*

The Convention proceeded to the choice of a Secretary ; and, on counting the ballots, it was declared that the Rev. Daniel L. B. Goodwin had been reëlected.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church, not members of this Convention, candidates for holy orders, and other members and friends of the Church who may be present, be invited to take honorary seats in this Convention.

The usual Rules of Order having been read, were adopted as the Rules for the government of this Convention.

The Rev. Samuel B. Babcock, collector of the assessment of the last year to defray the expense of printing the Journal, &c., reported that he had made the collections, and paid all dues of this Convention. This report was accepted.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Finance be chosen. Whereupon, the Rev. Alfred L. Baury, Hon. James C. Merrill, and William T. Grinnell, Esq., were appointed.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That when we adjourn, it be to meet again at half past 2 o'clock, this afternoon.

The Rev. Samuel Cutler asked and obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

On motion,

Voted to adjourn.

Morning prayer was read by the Rev. Samuel B. Shaw, assisted by the Rev. Thomas R. Lambert. The sermon was preached by the Rev. George M. Randall, from Acts xvi. 5: "And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily." After the sermon, the Bishop admitted William Augustus White to the holy order of Deacons, and administered the holy communion, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Shaw.

*Afternoon, 2½ o'clock.*

The Convention reassembled, and after the list of the Clergy and Lay Delegates had been called, the Bishop delivered the following Address :

## Bishop Griswold's

### ADDRESS TO THE CONVENTION.

---

It is, I trust, Christian friends and brethren, with a just sense of the Lord's patient goodness, in permitting me to meet you again in Convention, that I shall endeavor once more to perform the duty required by the eighth canon of 1841:—to "state the affairs of the *Eastern* Diocese since the last meeting of the Convention; the names of the churches that I have visited; the number of persons confirmed; the names of those who have been received as candidates for orders, and of those who have been ordained; the changes by death, removal, or otherwise, which have taken place among the clergy, and all other matters which will tend to throw light on" what concerns the churches under our care.

In stating *the names of the churches visited*, it will suffice to say in few words, that I have visited all the churches in the Eastern Diocese, where we have ministers, with the exception of Ashfield, in Massachusetts.

It will not be necessary, and, I presume, not desired, that I should, in this address, particularly mention the times and places, when and where I have preached, and administered baptism, and the Lord's supper. In these duties my labors have been about the same as in years preceding; not less, I may venture to say, having preached from once to five times in each church, in all 153 times, and many times I have administered other ordinances; but of the present state of the churches, and the changes which have happened in them, it is my duty to give you some more particular information.

To begin with Rhode Island: the Rev. Mr. Newman officiates in Westerly, and the parish there is happily united and prosper-

ous. Their church has been recently painted and neatly carpeted. The Rev. Mr. Eames officiates in Wakefield, where his services are well received, and we may hope will be much blessed. In Westerly, were nine confirmed. Our brethren in Kingston and Tower Hill are, at present, without the regular ministrations of our church; the necessity of this deprivation is matter of regret. The like may be said of the small parish in Jamestown, where, however, they have lay reading.

The Rev. Mr. Burge, in consequence of ill health, has resigned the charge of St. Paul's Church, in Wickford, which is now supplied by the Rev. Mr. Rouse. The parish has not, at any time, been in a more promising state. Eight persons were confirmed there, and nine in East Greenwich, where the Rev. Mr. Crane officiates very acceptably to the parish.

The two churches in Newport are in a very good state. The Rev. Mr. West has resigned the pastoral care of Zion Church, and the Rev. Benjamin Watson, from Connecticut, has been unanimously invited to take charge of it, where he is laboring successfully. In my last visitation, seven were confirmed in that church, and twenty in Trinity Church. The Rev. Mr. Ward officiates still in Portsmouth, to the acceptance, I believe, of the parish; none were confirmed there.

In February, I visited Bristol, where forty-five were confirmed. On the 13th of June, thirty-four more were presented for confirmation, making the whole number this year seventy-nine. When, in 1804, I took the charge of that parish, there were about twenty-five families decidedly attached to the Episcopal Church, and about the same number of communicants. Since that time it has been continually increasing, till it now has between three and four hundred communicants. On the 14th and 15th of June, I met in that place with the Convention of Rhode Island. St. Mark's Church, in Warren, has not, in any degree, declined from its uniformly vigorous, prosperous state. In my two visits to that parish fifteen were confirmed.

St. John's Church, in Providence, continues in its healthy, vigorous state; it is one of the few churches, which, in these times of change and removal, has long been blessed with the labors of one and the same minister. In April, I confirmed there thirty-four persons; and, on the 16th of June, in that church, ad-

mitted the Rev. John Wayland to the order of deacons. The Rev. Alexander H. Vinton has resigned the rectorship of Grace Church, in Providence, and, for several months last past, the Rev. Mr. Peet has officiated in that parish. I have visited it twice, and confirmed there fifteen. The removal of their late much-esteemed rector has caused some discouragement; but we hope that, as in a former like trial, the Lord will overrule it for good, and continue his blessings to that people. The Rev. Mr. Waterman, on account of ill health, resigned the charge of his church in Bernon, and has become the rector of St. Stephen's, in Providence. His health is now better. I instituted him into that church on the 14th of November last; and, at a subsequent visitation in April, confirmed there twenty. The Rev. Mr. Crummell has, since his ordination in May last, the charge of a colored congregation in Providence.

St. Paul's Church, in North Providence, has also been long blessed with the faithful and successful services of one and the same minister. He has presented twenty-eight for confirmation. The church in Lonsdale continues prosperous, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Taylor; twenty of his parishioners have been confirmed. The ministrations of the Rev. Mr. Penny, in Manville, have been much blessed, and twelve in his parish have been confirmed. In Bernon, (or Woonsocket,) the Rev. Mr. Cole officiates, and six in his parish have been confirmed. His church is in a good and healthy state.

From this brief statement you may see, that our merciful God and Saviour continues his blessing upon our labors in that State. The number of churches has not been increased; but many souls, we trust, have been added to the Lord.

For the degree of prosperity vouchsafed to our churches in Massachusetts, we have not less cause for thankfulness and praise. In my late visit to Nantucket, twenty-two persons were confirmed; but it was with no little pain that I found such further change and derangement in the chancel, desk, &c., of their church, that the convenience for administering confirmation and the other Christian ordinances is very much diminished; and all this, to render, it seems, the whole more conformable to the superstitious fooleries of the dark ages of the church. The people of the parish are united, and are making laudable exertions to pay



the interest, and slowly diminish the principal of the debt which still lies heavily upon them.

The Rev. Mr. Lambert officiates in Grace Church, New Bedford, much to the acceptance of the people, and the prosperity of the parish. In my two visitations, during our last diocesan year, I have there confirmed nineteen. It is much to be desired that the health of their present minister will be such as to encourage him to consent to a permanent settlement among that worthy people. Trinity Church, in Bridgewater, I have recently visited, but none were confirmed. Notwithstanding some discouragement from pecuniary losses, they seem determined to continue their Christian course with vigor and pious zeal. The Church of the Ascension, in Fall River, is also doing well. Its minister is faithfully laborious, and has presented sixteen for confirmation.

The Rev. Mr. Cutler has accepted an invitation from the church in Hanover, and has become, permanently, we hope, their minister. My last visit to that parish was, to myself, very interesting. On the evening of Saturday, the 26th of March, we had divine service, which a large congregation attended, apparently, with much religious feeling. The next day we had several services, and sixty-four came forward to receive confirmation. On Monday, the 27th, the religious services and devout attendance of the people in great numbers were still continued, and their minister, with the usual solemnities, was ordained priest. During a few years preceding, that parish had seemed to decline, and its prospects were discouraging. But the minister of Christ should never be discouraged. If we are sincere and faithful in preaching the doctrines of his cross, and salvation through faith in the redemption which he has wrought for us, our preaching will never be in vain. It is the instrumentality which God has ordained for the conversion of mankind, and his blessing will attend it.

It causes regret that we are, at present, unable to extend the regular ministrations of the gospel to the little flock in Marshfield; but if they unite in prayer, and trust in God, he will not forsake them. The Rev. Mr. Cutler visits them occasionally.

The Rev. Mr. Robinson, having resigned his parish in Marblehead, officiates now in Quincy, and thus far, it seems, with very much success. Our prayers should be offered to God, that he may be made the instrument of reviving that parish, which has,



for some time, appeared to be in a desponding state. I visited that church in December, then under the pastoral care of the Rev. Mr. Wolcott, and had made appointment to visit it again in March, which, in consequence of Mr. Wolcott's resigning the parish, was not done.

The Rev. Mr. Bent has accepted a call from St. Thomas' Church, in Taunton, and become its rector, and, under his ministry, it appears to have recovered from what it suffered in consequence of the Rev. Mr. Neville's removal. Twelve in that church were, in May, confirmed. In Dedham, I spent the last Christmas day, and the day following; preached several times, and gave the communion. None were confirmed. The state of the parish is about the same as in the year preceding.

January 6th, in the beautiful little church called St. John's Chapel, on Jamaica Plain, the Rev. Justin Field, Jr. received deacon's orders. Recently, the people who worship in it have called him to be permanently their minister; and, on the seventh day of this present month he was, in the same church, ordained priest. We may hope, and we should pray, that our ministrations may prove to be a great blessing to that very delightful village. I have visited it three times.

St. James' Church, in Roxbury, though struggling under embarrassing circumstances, still continues to increase; and there is still reason to hope that, through the blessing of God upon the labors and the very laudable zeal of that people and their rector, they will at length be freed from the debt which rests so hard upon them, and become one of the largest and best parishes in the diocese. In the two visitations to that church, twenty-four have been confirmed. Eleven, also, have been confirmed in St. Matthew's Church, in South Boston, which continues, we trust, in a good state. The Rev. Mr. Wells continues his labors in South Boston, profitably, we trust, to the cause of good morals and true religion.

In Trinity Church, in Boston, twenty have been confirmed. The parish continues healthy, strong, and vigorous, and not weary in well-doing.

The Rev. Dr. Stone, much to our regret, left the parish of St. Paul's Church, in Boston, who have since called to its rectorship the Rev. Mr. Vinton. I instituted him into that office on the 11th

of May, and his labors there, in all human appearance, have been very much blessed. On the 29th of the same month, forty-nine of his parishioners received confirmation. And the next day, in the same church, Alexander Crummell was ordained deacon. Christ Church, of the same city, is doing well; there has been no change in it, but for the better. In April, thirty-nine were confirmed there, and in the same church, on the 19th of June, Emery M. Porter was ordained deacon. Grace Church, in Boston, continues likewise to enjoy the smiles of a gracious Providence. I have officiated in it five times; at one time, confirmed in it thirteen, and, at another time, twenty-two. An unusual proportion of the congregation, and of the communicants especially, are young people, which augurs well for the future prosperity of the church. On the 29th of December, James H. Eames was there ordained deacon; and, on the 4th of the present month, Samuel A. Taylor was also there admitted to the same order of the Christian ministry. In the chapel or hall of the City Mission, I have officiated several times, and confirmed nine persons. The arduous labors of its minister are instrumental of much good; but the institution is not likely to prosper much without a convenient house for public worship. The good of our church, not only in Boston, but in all the State, and, indeed, throughout our country, requires that we have more churches in that city. Had we as much of such zeal as other Christians, their number would soon be increased. I would not, however, withhold the just praise of what is done by many, and, especially, by several associations of ladies in Boston, and in other places, for the promotion of religion and other charitable objects. It is worthy of all praise. To the societies, and labors, and pious contributions of females throughout the diocese we are indebted, under God, for a great part of our prosperity and increase. May the Lord, in his mercy, remember them for good. Something, indeed, is commenced in two other places in Boston, which, if suitably nourished, may, through God's blessing, be the seeds of flourishing churches.

The church in Cambridge I have visited twice, and confirmed six persons. The state of the parish is about the same as in the year preceding. This, in Charlestown, I have visited three times, and confirmed thirty-one. I was informed that many others

were desirous to be confirmed, but it was thought expedient that they should wait for further instructions in the doctrines and usages of the Episcopal Church. On the 10th of November, this edifice, called St. John's Church, was solemnly dedicated to God's holy worship; and on the 21st of the same month, I instituted the Rev. Mr. Greenleaf as the rector of the parish; and we have cause to bless God for its prosperous state. The "little flock," lately gathered in Chelsea, have recently invited the Rev. Mr. Bartlet to be their minister, and I feel much encouraged in his having accepted the call. Two persons have been confirmed there. Though it is now with them a "day of small things," their prospects seem to be encouraging.

The parish in Marblehead have called the Rev. Mr. Stickney to be their minister, who, on the 14th of this month, was, in St. Michael's Church, admitted to the holy order of priests. I have visited the parish three times, and confirmed eleven. The people continue zealous and united. And the like may be said of St. Peter's Church, in Salem; the parish is gradually increasing, and fifteen have been confirmed.

The parish in St. Paul's Church, in Newburyport, as you all know, has been visited with deep affliction in the decease of their venerable and much-esteemed pastor, the Rev. Dr. Morss. He died on the 26th of April, and on the 28th, we attended his funeral. The Rev. Dr. Burroughs delivered a discourse adapted to the occasion. The loss, to his surviving family, seems great indeed; but God, who governs all things, is just and good. What is said of that parish can be said of very few; that, during ninety years it has been regularly supplied by no more than two ministers; the Rev. (afterwards Right. Rev.) Edward Bass, and our highly-esteemed brother whose loss we now mourn. In that parish, eleven have been confirmed, and in Amesbury, five. In the last-named place, the Rev. Mr. Blaisdale officiates very acceptably to the people. Had they a larger house of worship, the parish, undoubtedly, would soon be much increased.

In Andover, I have held two confirmations, and administered the rite to thirteen persons. The parish continues to do well. To our two parishes in Lowell, I have had several pleasant visitations. On the 13th of March, I confirmed thirteen in St. Anne's Church, and admitted the Rev. William H. Moore to the order of

priesthood ; and the same day confirmed, of St. Luke's parish, twenty-three persons. April the 7th, in St. Anne's Church, William D. Wilson was ordained deacon. July 30th and 31st, I preached in Lowell several times, and in St. Anne's Church, confirmed fifty-one ; and in St. Luke's Church, twenty-four. The next day, August 1st, assisted a respectable number of my clerical brethren in laying the corner-stone of a new church edifice now being erected by St. Luke's parish. And last Sunday I again visited those churches, and confirmed, in St. Anne's Church, twenty-nine, and in the hall occupied for their place of worship by St. Luke's parish, sixteen persons. The whole number confirmed in Lowell this year is, in St. Anne's Church, ninety-three, and in St. Luke's, sixty-three. Our brethren there, have on them the heavy burden of building one church and buying another ; but the Lord, we hope and pray, will give them the heart and the means cheerfully to bear it. The church in Newton Lower Falls, continues, as in times past, united, and increasing. Fourteen have been there confirmed.

We have, perhaps, no minister of Christ who labors with more patient industry and *disinterested* zeal, and, we may add, (considering his field of labor,) with more success, than our worthy brother, the rector of St. John's Church, in Wilkinsonville. I mention this, the rather because many of our people are unacquainted with the good that he has done, and is still doing there. In my two visits there, eighteen were confirmed. They have a large and good choir of singers, and their responses in the service, as compared with our congregations generally, who are all more or less deficient, are remarkably good. The fifteen who were confirmed in March, had been recently converted to the Christian faith.

Sunday, the 18th of this month, I spent in Clappville, where the Rev. Mr. Putnam now officiates. The parish is in a low and somewhat discouraging state ; but there are particular and good reasons for an uninterrupted continuance of our services in that place. One person was confirmed.

Christ Church, in Springfield, I have visited twice, and in it confirmed eighteen. It is doing very well. Our churches on the west side of Connecticut river, I have visited but once each, and Ashfield, as I said, not once even. I have learned that it



continues as it was last year, when I passed a Sunday there. In the parish of St. James' Church, in Greenfield, we still find that happy union and active zeal, of minister and people, which, for almost thirty years, has been, without interruption, continued. Confirmations there were three.

Sunday, the 20th of August, I passed in Northampton, and rejoiced at finding the state of St. John's Church there evidently changed for the better. By the exertions of their minister, the Rev. Dr. Clark, and the aid of some gentlemen of Boston and New York, their house is at length nearly freed from debt. And, what is better, their attention is much more awakened to the "one thing needful." Ten came forward to confirmation, and twelve to the Lord's supper, which I was requested to administer. Dr. Clark is much encouraged, and intends, if his means will admit of it, to reside in Northampton, among the people, which is much to be desired. St. Luke's Church, in Lanesboro', is in a very good and flourishing state. The rector, Mr. Shaw, and his family, have been recently and deeply afflicted by the sudden death of a very hopeful, promising son. The mournful event appears to have been blessed to many, especially the young of the parish. Five only came forward to confirmation; but it was expected that a considerable number would soon be baptized, and ready for confirmation at some future time. Thus "in the midst of judgment the Lord remembers mercy."

The other churches in Berkshire county, are in a good state, though the numbers confirmed in some of them were small. In Pittsfield, eight; in Lenox, one; in Stockbridge, none; in Great Barrington, three; in Van Deusenville, two; in Otis, two; and one in Blandford. The ministers of those churches appear to be all faithful, and doing much good, and we hope, through God's blessing, seed is sowing for a greater harvest. But there is, generally, among many serious, thoughtful people, a backwardness and want of decision respecting a public profession of their faith, and well may the minister of Christ address them in the words of a prophet, "How long halt ye between two opinions."

Our churches in Maine I visited in July. The Rev. Mr. Randolph, on account of ill health, had left the parish in Saco, and they were then, and are still, without a minister; but were united, and very desirous of being again supplied. What was a



good evidence of their piety and zeal, almost the whole of the people continued weekly to attend public worship; Dr. Packard performed the service. Ten persons were confirmed; and ten, also, in Portland, where I was, Sunday, the 17th. That parish, now called St. Stephen's, continues in its prosperous state.

During the four days succeeding, we had a succession of interesting, and, I trust, profitable services in Gardiner and Augusta, and I had the pleasure of meeting a greater number of our clergy than, I believe, had ever met in Maine on any previous occasion. In Gardiner, on Tuesday, the 19th, seventeen persons were presented for confirmation, and James H. Carpenter was admitted to deacon's orders. On Wednesday, the 20th, the convention of the State met at Augusta, and their new, beautiful house was solemnly consecrated to the sacred use for which it was erected. On the 21st, confirmation was, in the same church, administered to twenty-seven of the congregation. That church appears to be quite prosperous, as does also St. John's, in Bangor, where I officiated on Sunday, the 24th. Through the persevering efforts of their rectors, the Rev. Mr. Freeman and the Rev. Mr. West, such contributions have been made or promised for their aid, that we have good reason to hope that both of those churches will soon be free from debt, and be able and willing to extend missionary aid to other churches. The Rev. Mr. Blake, chaplain in the army of the United States, officiates still in Houlton, and reports, that regular services have been held on Sundays in the garrison, which have been well attended, and that there is, among officers and soldiers, an increasing respect for religion, and desire to attend public worship. He has occasionally officiated at other places in the vicinity. He has, also, a Sunday school.

There are several places in Maine where the ministrations of the Protestant Episcopal Church are evidently called for, and where, if we are not deficient in missionary zeal, there may soon be congregations collected, and respectable churches established. There is evidently an increasing favorable attention given to this branch of the "one Catholic and apostolic Church," by other Protestant denominations. Our brother, the Rev. Mr. Hilliard, of Maine, died in Claremont, New Hampshire, January 2d, of the present year.

Confirmations in New Hampshire have been, in Portsmouth, sixteen; in Claremont, fifteen; in Hopkinton, three; and in Dover, four. I was prevented, by sickness, from visiting the churches in Cornish and Plainfield. In Charlestown and Drews-ville there were no ministers, and none prepared for confirmation. In Manchester, a new parish, I officiated on Sunday, the 11th of the present month, preached three times, and confirmed four persons. The Rev. Mr. Moore is their minister. The prospect there is of a gradual, though not rapid increase. The increase, however, will be, I doubt not, far more rapid, should they succeed in what they are now attempting, to raise funds sufficient to build a church. The Rev. Mr. Wolcott now officiates in Hopkinton, of that State, and very much to the acceptance of the people.

Through the Lord's patient goodness, I was enabled, last autumn, to meet with the general convention in New York, and to perform (very imperfectly indeed) the duties assigned me by the rules and usages of our church. What was done there, the journals of that convention will inform you. One we were happy in adding to the number of our bishops. But since, and soon after, we have been called to mourn for the decease of one of the most respected and best-beloved of our episcopal brethren. Another has been elected to assist in the episcopal duties in the State of Virginia, and it may be my duty soon to leave this diocese for a season, to attend the solemnities of his consecration.

In viewing the state of our churches, there are several things which rejoice my heart, and increase, I trust, my thankfulness to God. One is, that our parishes are now nearly all supplied, and, we may believe, well supplied with officiating ministers. Another and a very pleasing circumstance, is the spirit of love, and harmony, and brotherly kindness, which so happily prevails, and seems to increase among the clergy of this diocese. And I may add, that, so far as I can judge, our clergy are becoming more and more convinced of the importance of preaching the doctrines of the cross, and the evangelical truths of God's holy word. It seems to be a confirmation of the words of the prophet Isaiah: "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." The faithful preaching of Christ is a *standard*, and the only standard that is sufficient to repel every spiritual foe, and "to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."

At our last Diocesan Convention, I had the pleasure of reporting a much greater number of confirmations, than in the years preceding. And now the number much exceeds the last. In New Hampshire, 42; in Maine, 79; in Rhode Island, 282; and in Massachusetts, 658; amounting, in all, to 1061. I have administered the ordinance seventy-two times.

During the last diocesan year, fifteen new candidates have been received. In Massachusetts, Darius R. Brewer, Rev. John Wayland, Edmund F. Slafter, Samuel A. Taylor, Emery M. Porter, Daniel G. Estes, and Nathan G. Allen. In Rhode Island, George T. Cushman. In New Hampshire, Daniel G. Wright, and William D. Wilson. In Maine, Dr. George Packard, Rev. John S. Davenport, Daniel R. Goodwin, Frederick Gardiner, and John F. Young. The whole present number of our candidates, exclusive of three who have lately been transferred to other dioceses, is twenty-two.

Ten have been admitted to the order of deacons:—Fordyce M. Hubbard, James H. Eames, Justin Field, Jr., William D. Wilson, Alexander Crummell, Rev. John Wayland, Emery M. Porter, James H. Carpenter, Samuel A. Taylor, and William A. White, ordained this day.

Four only have been ordained priests:—Rev. Messrs. Samuel Cutler, William H. Moore, Justin Field, Jr. and Moses P. Stickney.

Respecting other changes among the clergy, there have been transferred from this diocese, the Rev. Fordyce M. Hubbard, to South Carolina; the Rev. Ambrose P. Merrill, to Mississippi; the Rev. William D. Wilson, to Vermont; the Rev. David L. Devens and the Rev. Sylvester Nash, to Connecticut; and the Rev. James H. Tyng, to Delaware. The Rev. William H. Moore has removed from East Greenwich, in Rhode Island, to Manchester, in New Hampshire; and the Rev. Calvin Wolcott now officiates in Hopkinton, in the same State. Three, who were of our candidates, have been transferred to other dioceses. Jonathan Coe, to Connecticut; Edmund P. Brown, to Delaware; and Nicholas P. Tillinghast, to Virginia.

The Rev. Mr. Leeds has officiated constantly, and much to the acceptance of several parishes. And the Rev. Mr. Snow is entirely restored to health, and officiates occasionally. The Rev. Elezer A. Greenleaf is now in the State of Maine.

And we are happy in having added to our numbers in Massachusetts, the Rev. Patrick H. Greenleaf, from Pennsylvania, and the Rev. Benjamin C. C. Parker, from Vermont. The Rev. Benjamin Watson, from Connecticut, is laboring in Rhode Island.

The Rev. John P. Fenner, of the Diocese of Western New York, died in Boston, October 10, while I was absent. "To depart and be with Christ is better" than any thing to be hoped for here; and yet, life is a great blessing, for which we, who still live, should be thankful; it gives us time and opportunity to do more good in this world, and to be better prepared for the world to come.

This very brief manner of reporting the state of each church, and of my official performances, renders this address dry and tedious to the hearers; and yet, with all my desire to be as concise as a faithful discharge of my duty will admit, I have too long detained you; and must omit several things which I intended to say upon the subjects of a devout performance of public worship; of the teaching of the Church Catechism more fully in our Sunday schools; of preparing young people for confirmation, so that it may be profitable to all who receive it; of making a public profession of faith in Christ; of "maintaining and setting forwards, as much as lieth in us, quietness, peace, and love, among all Christian people;" and, especially, of the cultivation of mutual affection and brotherly kindness between the ministers of Christ, and the people committed to their pastoral charge. I would also, did the time admit, say something, in addition to the very much which has been said, on the necessity and importance of increasing our missionary labors and contributions. In times past, there have been places not a few, in this diocese, where our ministrations were evidently called for, and churches of our communion might soon have been collected; but we were unable to avail ourselves of such openings, from the want of ministers to officiate in them. Many such we have lost; they are occupied by others. Now, in answer, we trust, to the prayers of God's people, the Lord of the harvest is sending laborers more abundantly into it. A considerable number have been recently ordained, and still more are preparing for orders, and studying with diligence, that they may be useful in the sacred ministry. Several very promising clergymen are now ready to engage in this good work, and



need only a little missionary aid in the commencement of their labors. There yet remain in the Eastern Diocese many places where we might well hope to collect congregations of those who are now either deprived of the privileges of public worship, or who are not in the habit of attending it, or of those who are decidedly attached to the ministrations of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and cannot find full comfort and edification in any other Christian community. Perhaps time and opportunity may hereafter be given me to address you on these subjects; if not, the Lord's will be done.

Yesterday, as you all, no doubt, well know, the State Convention of Massachusetts, had a special convention, in Trinity Church, in Boston, for the special and very important purpose of electing one to be an assistant bishop in that State. And if any thing can cause us to thank God and take courage, his merciful goodness vouchsafed to us on the occasion must have that effect. Though Christian love and brotherly affection have been so remarkable, and for years so evidently increasing among us, yet, on an occasion so very interesting to all, and so exciting, it was reasonable to apprehend some conflict of opinions and diversity of judgment. Who does not then perceive the hand of God, and his answer to our united prayers, in the perfect union and wonderful harmony which, through the whole transaction, prevailed? Such entire unanimity, on a like occasion, has never, we may venture to say, been before witnessed in our country. It is most comforting proof that the Spirit which was in our Saviour Christ is with us, and may he give us all grace thankfully to cherish it.

The person elected, you also know, is the Rev. Manton Eastburn, D. D. of New York. And a call, in which the hand of an overruling Providence is so visible, he will, we trust, think it his duty to accept. May the Lord give us hearts to be duly thankful for all his mercies, and grace to show our thankfulness, by making a right use of them.

ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD.



On motion,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be respectfully presented to the Bishop for his Address, and that a copy of the same be requested for publication in the Journal. Also, that six hundred copies of the Journal be printed.

On motion,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to designate a place for the meeting of the next Convention, and to nominate preachers for the same. Whereupon, the Rev. Mr. Lee, Rev. Dr. Crocker, and Rev. Mr. Hassard were appointed.

Rev. Mr. McCoy asked leave of absence for the remainder of the session, which was granted.

The Financial Committee presented the following Report :

“ The Financial Committee respectfully report that the probable expense of publishing the Journal of the Convention, etc., will amount to about fifty dollars, which they have apportioned upon the following churches :

*Massachusetts.*

|                               |     |                            |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|
| Trinity Church, Boston,       | \$4 | St. James', Greenfield,    | \$1 |
| St. Paul's, Boston,           | 4   | Christ Church, Quincy,     | 1   |
| Christ Church, Boston,        | 2   | St. Peter's, Salem,        | 2   |
| Grace Church, Boston,         | 3   | St. Michael's, Marblehead, | 1   |
| St. Paul's, Newburyport,      | 1   | Christ Church, Andover,    | 1   |
| St. Andrew's, Hanover,        | 1   | St. Anne's, Lowell,        | 2   |
| St. Mary's, Newton,           | 1   | St. Luke's, Lowell,        | 1   |
| St. John's, Charlestown,      | 1   | Trinity Church, Bridge-    |     |
| Christ Church, Springfield,   | 1   | water,                     | 1   |
| Church of the Ascension, Fall |     | St. Luke's, Lanesboro',    | 1   |
| River,                        | 1   | St. James', Great Barring- |     |
| Christ Church, Cambridge,     | 1   | ton,                       | 1   |
| Grace Church, New Bedford,    | 1   | Trinity Church, Van Deu-   |     |
| St. Paul's, Dedham,           | 1   | senville,                  | 1   |
| St. James', Roxbury,          | 1   | St. Stephen's, Pittsfield, | 1   |
| St. John's, Wilkinsonville,   | 1   | St. Thomas', Taunton,      | 1   |

*Rhode Island.*

|   |     |                           |     |
|---|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| St. Michael's Church, Bristol,                                  | \$2 | Grace Church, Providence, | \$2 |
| St. John's, Providence,   | 2   | Trinity Church, Newport,  | 2   |
| St. Mark's, Warren,   | 1   | Zion Church, Newport,     | 1   |
| St. Paul's, North Providence,                                   | 1   |                           |     |
| Churches in Massachusetts, \$39—Churches in Rhode Island, \$11. |     |                           |     |

All other churches of the Eastern Diocese, not enumerated as above, to pay such amount as they may be disposed.

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| ALFRED L. BAURY,  | } <i>Finance</i> |
| W. T. GRINNELL,   |                  |
| JAMES C. MERRILL, |                  |

Committee."

*Charlestown, Mass. Sept. 28, 1842.*

On motion,

*Resolved*, That this report be accepted, and that the several churches be now called upon to pay to the Secretary the sums apportioned to them. Whereupon, several of the churches made payment accordingly, and Mount Zion Church, Chelsea, not mentioned in the report, paid the sum of \$1.

On motion,

*Resolved*, To elect the Standing Committee.

The following persons were then chosen.

|                                |                          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D., | Hon. Edward A. Newton,   |
| Rev. Alfred L. Baury,          | Stephen S. Northam, Esq. |
| Rev. John L. Watson,           | Hon. James C. Merrill,   |
| Rev. Thomas M. Clark,          | Edward S. Rand, Esq.     |
| Rev. James Pratt.              |                          |

On motion,

*Resolved*, To elect a Treasurer of the Easter Collections ; whereupon, Benjamin P. Richardson was chosen.

On motion,

*Resolved*, To elect a Treasurer of the Bishop's Fund ; whereupon, the Rev. Dr. Boyle was chosen.

The committee of last year, upon the publication of the Bishop's Addresses, &c., presented the following report :

"The Committee charged by this Convention, with the duty of conferring with the Right Rev. Bishop of this Diocese, on the subject of publishing in one volume, all the charges and addresses communicated by him to the churches under his supervision, through the thirty-two years of his Episcopate, and to make such other inquiries, as should furnish information on the practicability of such an enterprise, have attended to their duty, and are ready to report.

The Bishop has very kindly consented to the publication, and has signified his willingness to revise and prepare the necessary papers, in so far as they are, or may be in his possession.

A competent publisher proposes to issue the volume, in a handsome and suitable style of execution, at his own risk, aided

by such assistance in its sale and circulation, as the clergy, and other friends of the church might be expected to render.

Such a volume, would constitute a most interesting history of the advancement of our church in this diocese, through that long, and, in some respects, eventful period, in which this church has been blessed with the useful labors of its venerated Diocesan. Your committee suggest the expediency of prefixing to the text of the proposed volume, an outline of the previous history of the church in the Eastern Diocese, and that some competent person be entrusted by this Convention with the preparation of such an introduction.

Respectfully submitted,

M. A. D'W. HOWE,  
*For the Committee."*

*Charlestown, Sept. 28th, 1842.*

On motion,

*Resolved*, That this report be accepted, and that a committee be appointed to take into consideration the suggestion in the close of the report. The Hon. Edward A. Newton, Rev. Dr. Crocker, and Rev. Mr. Baury, were appointed this committee.

The Treasurer of the Bishop's Fund, presented his annual report, which was accepted, and referred to the Financial Committee.

The Committee to whom was referred the suggestion, in the close of the report of the committee on the publication of the Bishop's Addresses, reported that, in addition to the Publishing Committee, they recommend the appointment of Rev. Francis Vinton, Rev. Theodore Edson, Rev. Dr. Burroughs, and Hon. Robert H. Gardiner, a committee to assist in collecting materials and preparing a history of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese, to be prefixed to the volume of the Bishop's Addresses. Whereupon, the above-named gentlemen were appointed this committee.

The following report was presented :

"The committee appointed for the purpose of designating the place of meeting for the next Convention, and of nominating preachers for the same, report, that they have agreed to recommend for the place of the next meeting, Christ Church, Boston.

For preachers before the Convention, Rev. John Woart, the Rev. Henry Waterman, substitute.

For preachers on the evening before Convention, the Rev. Frederick Freeman, the Rev. Henry H. Bates, substitute.

For preachers on the evening after the Convention, the Rev. Joseph H. Clinch, the Rev. Silas A. Crane, substitute.

HENRY W. LEE, *Chairman.*"

This report was accepted.

The Financial Committee, having audited the report of the Treasurer of the Bishop's Fund, reported that it was correct.

The business of the Convention being completed, the members united in singing the 133d Psalm, and in prayers conducted by the Bishop. After which the Convention adjourned, without day.

ALEXANDER V. GRISWOLD,

*Bishop of the Eastern Diocese.*

DANIEL L. B. GOODWIN, *Secretary.*

On the evening before the Convention, public worship was held in St. John's Church. Prayers were read by the Rev. A. D. McCoy, and a sermon preached by the Rev. John P. Robinson. On the evening following the Convention, prayers were read by the Rev. William H. Newman, and a sermon preached by the Rev. Samuel Penny, Jr.

Dr. . . . . EPISCOPAL FUND *in account current*

|           |  |     |    |
|-----------|--|-----|----|
| 1841.     | To the following sums paid Rt. Rev. Bishop     |     |    |
|           | Griswold, as per receipts :                    |     |    |
| Oct. 26.  | - - - - -                                      | 50  | 00 |
| Dec. 20.  | - - - - -                                      | 270 | 00 |
| " 30.     | - - - - -                                      | 50  | 00 |
| 1842.     |  |     |    |
| Jan. 20.  | - - - - -                                      | 100 | 00 |
| Feb. 18.  | - - - - -                                      | 120 | 00 |
| June 17.  | - - - - -                                      | 115 | 00 |
| Aug. 19.  | - - - - -                                      | 110 | 00 |
|           |  | 815 | 00 |
| 1841.     |  |     |    |
| Dec. 29.  | J. B. Dow's bill printing circulars, - - - - - | 3   | 00 |
| 1842.     |  |     |    |
| Sept. 28. | To balance to new account, - - - - -           | 152 | 11 |

Boston, September 28, 1842.

Errors excepted.

ISAAC BOYLE, *Treasurer.*

The subscribers, having examined the above account,  
find the same properly vouched and correctly cast.

ALFRED L. BAURY, }  
JAMES C. MERRILL, } *Financial Committee.*  
W. T. GRINNELL, }

Charlestown, Mass. September 28, 1842.



with ISAAC BOYLE, *Treasurer*. . . . . Cr.

|           |   |       |           |
|-----------|---|-------|-----------|
| 1841.     | By amount received from the following Churches<br>in Mass. for deficiency in bishop's salary: |       |           |
| Dec. 13.  | Christ Church, Cambridge, - - - -   | \$15  | 39        |
|           | St. Matthew's, South Boston, - - - -  | 5     | 50        |
| 20.       | Grace, New Bedford, - - - -   | 20    | 00        |
| 1842.     |   |       |           |
| Jan. 3.   | St. Andrew's, Hanover, - - - -  | 7     | 56        |
|           | Christ Church, Clappville, - - - -  | 5     | 00        |
|           | 11. St. Paul's, Stockbridge, - - - -  | 2     | 50        |
|           | 22. Christ Church, Boston, - - - -  | 21    | 20        |
| Sept. 27. | St. Paul's, Stockbridge, (additional,) - -  | 5     | 00        |
|           | Trinity, Van Deusenville, - - - -   | 5     | 00—87 15  |
| 1841.     | Amount received from churches in Rhode Island,<br>for the same object:                        |       |           |
| Dec. 16.  | St. Paul's, Pawtucket, - - - -  | 21    | 22        |
| 1842.     |   |       |           |
| Jan. 17.  | Grace, Providence, - - - -  | 40    | 00        |
|           | St. Stephen's, Providence, - - - -  | 14    | 00        |
|           | St. Paul's, Portsmouth, - - - -   | 2     | 00—77 22  |
| 1841.     | Amount received from churches in Maine, for the<br>same object:                               |       |           |
| Dec. 21.  | Christ Church, Gardiner, - - - -  | 20    | 00        |
| 23.       | St. Stephen's, Portland, - - - -  | 15    | 00—35 00  |
|           |   | 199   | 37        |
|           | Annual collections rec'd from churches in Mass.   |       |           |
| Dec. 10.  | Christ Church, Andover, - - - -   | 16    | 19        |
| 20.       | Trinity, Boston, - - - -  | 211   | 00        |
| 1842.     |   |       |           |
| Jan. 11.  | St. Paul's, Stockbridge, - - - -  | 2     | 50        |
| Feb. 12.  | St. Paul's, Boston, (including deficiency,) -   | 96    | 00        |
| Mar. 31.  | St. Matthew's, South Boston, - - - -  | 5     | 50        |
| May 11.   | St. Paul's, Dedham, - - - -   | 6     | 85        |
| 27.       | St. Andrew's, Hanover, - - - -  | 12    | 00        |
|           | St. James's, Roxbury, - - - -   | 30    | 23        |
|           | St. John's, Jamaica Plain, - - - -  | 3     | 00        |
| June 7.   | St. Peter's, Salem, - - - -   | 40    | 00        |
| 8.        | Trinity, Van Deusenville, - - - -   | 6     | 11        |
|           | St. Mark's, Blandford, - - - -  | 2     | 50        |
|           | Trinity, Bridgewater, - - - -   | 5     | 00        |
|           | St. Paul's, Newburyport, - - - -  | 10    | 00        |
| July 30.  | St. Andrew's, Hanover, paid in 1841, and<br>rec'd through Rev. Mr. Baur, - - - -              | 5     | 00        |
| Aug. 15.  | St. Thomas's, Taunton, - - - -  | 25    | 00        |
| 17.       | St. Mary's, Newton Lower Falls, - - - -   | 28    | 00        |
| 18.       | Trinity, Nantucket, - - - -   | 15    | 00        |
| 20.       | Grace, New Bedford, - - - -   | 25    | 00        |
| 25.       | St. Stephen's, Pittsfield, (inclusive of defi-<br>ciency,) - - - -                            | 25    | 00        |
| Sept. 27. | St. John's, Wilkinsonville, - - - -   | 9     | 00        |
|           | St. Michael's, Marblehead, - - - -  | 10    | 00        |
|           | Donation from Rev. E. M. P. Wells, of<br>South Boston, - - - -                                | 20    | 00        |
|           | Grace, Boston, - - - -  | 50    | 00—658 88 |
| 1841.     | Annual Collections from Rhode Island:   |       |           |
| Sept. 30. | St. John's, Providence, - - - -   | 53    | 46        |
| 1842.     |   |       |           |
| Jan. 17.  | Trinity, Newport, - - - -   | 28    | 40        |
| June 3.   | Amount received from the treasurer of the<br>Rhode Island Convention, - - - -                 | 20    | 00—101 86 |
|           | Annual collections from Maine:  |       |           |
| July 30.  | St. John's, Bangor, - - - -   | 10    | 00        |
|           |   | 770   | 74        |
|           |   | \$970 | 11        |

*Dr. ....EASTER COLLECTIONS IN EASTERN DIOCESE in account with BENJAMIN P. RICHARDSON, Treasurer.....Cr.*

|              |   |         |          |
|--------------|---|---------|----------|
| <b>1841.</b> |   |         |          |
| Nov. 17.     | To Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold's order in favor of Phineas Capen, treasurer of Massachusetts Board of Missions, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, to be paid Rev. F. W. J. Pollard, | \$50 00 |          |
|              | Do. to Rev. Ethan Allen,  | 50 00   |          |
|              |   | <hr/>   | \$100 00 |
| <b>1842.</b> |   |         |          |
| June 21.     | To Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold's order, in favor of Rev. Henry H. Bates,  |         |          |
| June 25.     | To Rt. Rev. A. V. Griswold's order in favor of Rev. Ethan Allen,  | 65 00   |          |
| Sept. 28.    | Balance,  | 55 00   |          |
|              |   | 2 29    |          |
|              |   | <hr/>   | \$222 29 |
| <b>1841.</b> |   |         |          |
|              | By balance per old account,   |         | \$179 39 |
| Jan. 17.     | St. Paul's Church, Stockbridge, by Rev. Dr. Boyle,  |         | 5 00     |
| Mar. 30.     | St. Andrew's Church, Hanover, by Rev. Samuel Cutler,  |         | 13 02    |
| April 6.     | Christ Church, Quincy, by Rev. Calvin Wolcott,  |         | 5 12     |
| " 8.         | Trinity Church, Bridgewater, by John Edson,   |         | 5 00     |
| " 18.        | St. Matthew's Church, South Boston,   |         | 5 00     |
| May 12.      | St. Paul's Church, Dedham, by Rev. S. B. Babcock,   |         | 4 76     |
| June 8.      | Trinity Church, Van Deusenville, by Rev. Samuel P. Parker,  |         | 5 00     |
|              |   | <hr/>   | \$222 29 |
|              | Errors excepted,  |         |          |

*Boston, September 28, 1842.*

BENJAMIN P. RICHARDSON, *Treasurer.*

# Constitution

OF THE

## PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE EASTERN DIOCESE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

---

ARTICLE 1. The States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, *New Hampshire*, *Vermont*,\* and Maine, shall constitute one Episcopal Diocese, in subordination to the General Convention, and shall be entitled

### **The Eastern Diocese of the United States.**

ART. 2. There shall be annually held a Convention of the Church in this Diocese, on the last Wednesday in September, in such place as shall be agreed upon at the preceding Convention, composed of the clergy belonging to the Diocese, and a lay delegate or delegates, not exceeding three, from each of the churches which may have been recognized by the Bishop or a Standing Committee of the Diocese.

ART. 3. The Convention shall deliberate and act in one body, but shall vote in distinct orders, when any member shall call for such a division on any question; and, in such case, a concurrence of a majority of both orders shall be necessary to give validity to any measure.

ART. 4. The Bishop, or, if the Bishop be not present, a clergyman, chosen by ballot, shall be President of the Convention.

ART. 5. At each meeting of the Convention, a Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, who shall keep a true and fair record of the proceedings of Conventions, and, at the close of each session, shall furnish the Bishop with a copy of the same, or, if there be no Bishop, the Standing Committee.

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\* Agreeably to the ninth article of the Constitution, *Vermont* and *New Hampshire* have withdrawn from the Diocese; so that the Eastern Diocese now comprises only the States of *Massachusetts*, *Rhode Island*, and *Maine*.

ART. 6. There shall be a Standing Committee elected at each stated meeting of the Convention, consisting of nine persons, one of whom shall be from each State in the Diocese.

ART. 7. The Association of the Eastern Diocese shall be dissolved on the demise of its present Bishop.

ART. 8. Standing rules for the orderly conducting of business shall be devised, from time to time, in the Convention.

ART. 9. No State shall withdraw from this Diocese, without the approbation of the other States and of the Bishop of the Diocese.

ART. 10. No alteration shall be made in this Constitution but in the Annual Convention, nor unless it has been proposed in a previous Convention, nor without the concurrence of a majority of the delegation from at least three of the States of the Diocese.

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## Notice.

The next Annual Convention of the Eastern Diocese, is appointed to be held in Christ Church, Boston, on the *last Wednesday* of September, 1843, at nine o'clock, A. M.

DANIEL L. B. GOODWIN,

*Secretary of the Convention.*

JOURNAL  
OF THE  
PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
SPECIAL CONVENTION  
OF THE  
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
IN  
RHODE-ISLAND,  
HELD IN  
ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE,  
THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1843.

~~~~~

PROVIDENCE:  
PRINTED BY H. H. BROWN.  
1843.





# LIST OF THE CLERGY

OF THE

Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode-Island.

---

REV. JOHN BRISTED, Rector of St. Michael's Church,  
Bristol.

REV. LEMUEL BURGE, residing at Wickford.

REV. JAMES H. CARPENTER, Deacon, Missionary at  
Diamond Hill, Cumberland.

REV. AZEL D. COLE, Rector of St. James's Church,  
Woonsocket.

REV. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St.  
John's Church, Providence.

REV. SILAS A. CRANE, Rector of St. Luke's Church,  
East-Greenwich.

REV. JAMES H. EAMES, Rector of Ascension Church,  
Wakefield.

REV. THOMAS F. FALES, Assistant Minister of St.  
Michael's Church, Bristol.

REV. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Deacon, Minister of  
Christ Church, Providence.

REV. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's  
Church, Warren.

REV. WILLIAM H. NEWMAN, Rector of Christ Church,  
Westerly.

Rev. SAMUEL PENNY, jun. Rector of Emmanuel Church, Manville.

Rev. THOMAS L. RANDOLPH, Deacon, Missionary at Rockville, Johnston.

Rev. JAMES C. RICHMOND, Missionary at large for the Convocation.

Rev. JOHN H. ROUSE, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Wickford.

Rev. JOHN SUDDARDS,\* residing in Johnston.

Rev. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Providence.

Rev. CHARLES C. TAYLOR, Rector of Christ Church, Lonsdale.

Rev. FRANCIS VINTON, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. MILTON WARD, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.

Rev. HENRY WATERMAN, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Providence.

Rev. BENJAMIN WATSON, Rector of Zion Church, Newport.

Rev. JOHN WAYLAND, Chaplain in the United States Army, Governor's Island, New-York Harbor.

\* Not entitled to a seat in the Convention.

## LIST OF LAY DELEGATES,

CERTIFICATES OF WHOSE ELECTION BY THEIR RESPECTIVE CHURCHES  
WERE PRESENTED AND APPROVED.

---

*Trinity Church, Newport.* Samuel F. Gardner, John H. Gilliat, Christopher G. Perry, Benjamin Finch.

*Zion Church, Newport.* Augustus Bush, William C. Cozzens, Charles H. Mumford, Cornelius B. Wilbour.

*St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.* John Burrington, George F. Hood, James Brownell, Albert C. Greene.

*St. Michael's Church, Bristol.* George Pearce, John G. Harding, Benjamin Hall, Timothy J. Tanner.

*St. Mark's Church, Warren.* Haile Collins, George G. Hazard, John T. Child, Nathan M. Wheaton.

*St. John's Church, Providence.* Austin Gurney, W. G. Goddard, Robert H. Ives, Alexander Duncan.

*Grace Church, Providence.* William T. Grinnell, Edward Walcott, Russel Warren, S. A. Arnold.

*St. Stephen's, Providence.* Resolved Waterman, Nicholas Stillwell, Gideon Gurnett, Rollin Mathewson.

*St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.* E. S. Wilkinson, Alanson Thayer, Samuel Young, Horace Miller.

*Christ Church, Lonsdale.* John E. Bacon, James M. Carpenter, Alexander B. Chace, Stephen Angell.

*Emmanuel Church, Manville.* W. A. J. Wilkinson, George C. Wilson, Joseph H. Slater, Isaiah J. Weaver.

*St. James's Church, Woonsocket.* Samuel Greene, William Booth, James C. Rome, Stephen N. Mason.

*St. Luke's Church, E. Greenwich.* David Pinniger, Elisha Potter, John P. Roberts, jun. William G. Bowen.

*St. Paul's Church, Tower Hill.* Stephen C. Browning, Freeman Watson, jun.

*St. Paul's Church, Wickford.* William A. Shaw, Gideon Freeborn, A. M. Thomas, John Taylor.

*Ascension Church, Wakefield.* Attmore Robinson, Daniel C. Hiscox, Albert Robinson, Geo. Whitford.

*Christ Church, Westerly.* Lyndon Taylor, Stephen Smith, jun. Edwin Babcock, Joseph M. Wilcox.

*St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.* Geo. Anthony, Robert H. Watson, John E. Watson, Nicholas Carr.

*St. Peter's Church, Kingston.* Not represented by Laity.



# JOURNAL.

---

{ *St. Stephen's Church, Providence, R. I.*  
{ *Thursday, April 6, 1843.*

THIS being the day and place appointed by the Standing Committee for a Special Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode-Island, it assembled in St. Stephen's Church, Providence, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

After the morning prayer by the Rev. George W. Hathaway, of St. Mark's Church, Warren, assisted by the Rev. Silas A. Crane, of St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich, who read the lessons, and after the sermon by the Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. of St. John's Church, Providence, and the administering of the communion by the Rev. Mr. Hathaway, assisted by Rev. Dr. Crocker and the Rev. Henry Waterman, of St. Stephen's Church, Providence, the Convention proceeded to the business of organization, the Rev. Dr. Crocker being called to the chair.

The roll was then called, and the following Clergymen answered to their names and took their seats :

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Rev. John Bristed          | Rev. William H. Newman |
| " Lemuel Burge             | " Samuel Penny, jun.   |
| " James H. Carpenter       | " Thomas L. Randolph   |
| " Azel D. Cole             | " James C. Richmond    |
| " Silas A. Crane           | " John H. Rouse        |
| " Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. | " George Taft          |
| " James H. Eames           | " Charles C. Taylor    |
| " Thomas F. Fales          | " Francis Vinton       |
| " Benjamin Franklin        | " Milton Ward          |
| " George W. Hathaway       | " Henry Waterman       |
|                            | " Benjamin Watson      |

The following lay delegates answered to their names and took their seats :

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Samuel F. Gardner    | Alexander Duncan    | George C. Wilson    |
| John H. Gilliat      | William T. Grinnell | Joseph H. Streeter  |
| Christopher G. Perry | Edward Walcott      | Isaiah J. Weaver    |
| Benjamin Finch       | Russel Warren       | Nicholas Carr       |
| Cornelius B. Wilbour | S. A. Arnold        | Gideon Freeborn     |
| Augustus Bush        | Resolved Waterman   | A. M. Thomas        |
| Charles H. Mumford   | Nicholas Stillwell  | David Pinniger      |
| John Burrington      | Gideon Gurnett      | Elisha Potter       |
| George F. Hood       | Rollin Mathewson    | Stephen C. Browning |
| George Pearce        | Edward S. Wilkinson | Freeman P. Watson   |
| John G. Harding      | Alanson Thayer      | John Taylor         |
| Benjamin Hall        | Samuel Young        | Lyndon Taylor       |
| Timothy J. Tanner    | Horace Miller       | Joseph M. Willcox   |
| Haile Collins        | James M. Carpenter  | Samuel Greene       |
| George G. Hazard     | Alexander B. Chace  | William Booth       |
| Nathan M. Wheaton    | Stephen Angell      | James C. Rome       |
| John T. Child        | Daniel C. Hiscox    | Stephen N. Mason    |
| Austin Gurney        | Albert Robinson     | Stephen Smith, jun. |
| William G. Goddard   | George Whitford     | Edwin Babcock       |
| Robert H. Ives       | W. A. J. Wilkinson  |                     |

The Rev. Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. was elected President of the Convention.

The Rev. Azel D. Cole was elected Secretary.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed, to examine the credentials of the Clergy and of the lay delegates.

When Rev. Messrs. Crane and Eames and Edward S. Wilkinson were appointed said Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. Bristed and William G. Goddard be a Committee to request the President of the Convention to furnish a copy of the sermon delivered by him at the opening of the Convention, for publication.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to draught resolutions expressive of the feelings of this Convention respecting the death of the Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold.

The Rev. Mr. Hathaway and William G. Goddard were appointed said Committee.

The Convention then adjourned, to meet at three o'clock P. M.

---

#### AFTERNOON SESSION, 3 o'clock.

The Convention assembled, and after the reading of the rules of order, the Committee appointed to examine the credentials of the Clergy and of the lay delegates, reported, that the credentials of the Rev. Lemuel Burge, residing in Wickford, and

of the Rev. Benjamin Franklin, Minister of Christ Church, Providence, a parish not in connection with this Convention, were doubtful.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. Lemuel Burge be admitted to a seat in this Convention.

It was moved, That the Rev. Benjamin Franklin is not entitled to a seat in this Convention, which motion was lost.

The Committee appointed to prepare resolutions in relation to our late and lamented Bishop, offered the following, which were read, accepted and passed, all the congregation rising :

Whereas it hath pleased Almighty GOD, in His wise Providence, to take out of this world ALEXANDER VIETS GRISWOLD, for thirty-two years the Bishop of the Eastern Diocese, and late the senior Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States—Therefore,

*Resolved*, That while it becomes us to bow, with profound submission, to the sovereign will of that Being with whom are the issues of life, it does not less become us to entertain a lively sense of the bereavement which we have sustained by the death of our venerated Diocesan, who, with such gentle wisdom and such godly simplicity, so long presided over the counsels of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Rhode-Island.

*Resolved*, That the prosperity of the Church within the limits of the Eastern Diocese, may be ascribed mainly to the gracious influences which the life and character of our venerated Diocesan shed abroad upon both Clergy and Laity, and, through them, upon society at large;—to the scrupulous fidelity with which he performed all the duties of the episcopal office;—to his extensive acquisitions in theological learning, consecrated as were those acquisitions to the highest service of God and of man;—to the extraordinary ability with which he preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ—never erring, either through excess or defect, in his statements of scriptural truth—never severing faith from good works—never encouraging a treacherous hope—never leaving true penitence to suffer, without comforting assurances of pardon, the agonies of a wounded spirit;—and, above all, to the daily beauty of his Christian life;—to the quiet and unostentatious diligence, with which he did whatsoever his hand found to do; and to that earnest yet chastened piety which was the habit of his soul.

*Resolved*, That we, the Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of Rhode-Island, are not without special reasons for lamenting the departure from this life of our most excellent Diocesan, for here were passed

most of the years allotted to his laborious and effective ministry ; here his kind affections flowed out upon familiar and constant friends ; and here he is freshly remembered by thousands who loved to catch from his lips, now sealed forever, the accents of everlasting truth.

*Resolved*, That we advert, with melancholy pleasure, to the season of the last annual Convention of this Diocese in St. Michael's Church, Bristol, over which Convention our departed Diocesan presided—standing upon that very spot where, for so many years, he preached to affectionate parishioners the words of eternal life, and invoking, ere he went out from among us, a parting blessing upon the early scenes of his parochial labors and domestic joys.

*Resolved*, That while we sorrow that we shall behold no more the face of our beloved Diocesan, we have reason to be grateful to Almighty GOD, that He so long forbore to reclaim His gift ; that He graciously permitted His servant to labor, without faltering, even to the end ; and that, at last, He suffered him to pass, without a pang from the toils of his earthly pilgrimage, to the joys and triumphs of the immortal life.

*Resolved*, That copies of these Resolutions be transmitted to Mrs. Griswold, the widow of Bishop Griswold, to the Publisher of the Christian Witness, and likewise to the Secretaries of the Conventions of the Dioceses of Massachusetts, Maine and New-Hampshire.

It was moved and seconded, That this Convention now proceed to the election of a Bishop for this Diocese.

It was moved, That this resolution be postponed until the Annual Convention in June ; which motion was lost.

The question was then taken upon the original resolution, and decided, (the two orders voting separately,) in the affirmative.

After an interval of silent prayer, the Clergy retired, and appointed the Rev. JOHN PRENTISS KEWLEY HENSHAW, D. D. Rector of St. Peter's Church, Baltimore, to the Episcopate, by a vote of 17 to 2.

The Laity then retired, and approved of the choice of the Clergy, by a vote of 16 Congregations to 2.

*Resolved*, That this Convention do now sign the canonical testimonials of the Bishop elect.

*Resolved*, That the salary of the Bishop of this Diocese be fixed at \$400 per annum.



The Rev. Mr. Taft was excused from further attendance.

The lay delegation from Emmanuel Church, Manville, and from St. Paul's Church, North-Providence, were excused.

The Rev. Mr. Waterman and William T. Grinnell were appointed a committee to wait upon the Rev. John P. K. Henshaw, D. D. and solicit his acceptance of the Episcopate.

The Journal was then read, and the Secretary was directed to publish 500 copies of the same.

*Resolved*, That the Convention adjourn, *sine die*.

The Convention then adjourned.

AZEL D. COLE, *Secretary*.



### NOTICE.

The next annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode-Island, will be held in St. Stephen's Church, Providence, on the second Tuesday in June, 1843, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

AZEL D. COLE,  
*Secretary of the Convention.*

JOURNAL  
OF  
PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION  
OF THE  
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
IN  
RHODE-ISLAND,  
HELD IN  
ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE,  
TUESDAY, JUNE 13, AND WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, A. D. 1843.

---

PROVIDENCE:  
PRINTED BY H. H. BROWN.  
1843.



# LIST OF THE CLERGY

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN R. ISLAND.

---

- Rev. JOHN BRISTED, residing in Bristol.
- Rev. LEMUEL BURGE, residing in North-Kingstown.
- Rev. JAMES H. CARPENTER, Deacon, officiating in Emmanuel Church, Manville.
- Rev. AZEL D. COLE, Rector of St. James's Church, Woonsocket.
- Rev. SILAS A. CRANE, Rector of St. Luke's Church, East-Greenwich.
- Rev. NATHAN B. CROCKER, D. D. Rector of St. John's Church, Providence.
- Rev. JAMES H. EAMES, Rector of Ascension Church, Wakefield.
- Rev. THOMAS F. FALES, officiating in Grace Church, Providence.
- Rev. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Deacon, residing in Providence.
- Rev. GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, Rector of St. Mark's Church, Warren.
- Rev. WILLIAM H. NEWMAN, Rector of Christ Church, Westerly.

Rev. SAMUEL PENNY, jun. Rector of Emmanuel Church, Manville.

Rev. THOMAS L. RANDOLPH, Deacon, Missionary at Rockville, Johnston.

Rev. JAMES C. RICHMOND, Rector of the Church of the Advent, Cumberland, and of Christ Church, Providence.

Rev. JOHN H. ROUSE, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Kingstown.

Rev. JOHN SUDDARDS, residing in Johnston.

Rev. GEORGE TAFT, Rector of St. Paul's Church, North Providence.

Rev. CHARLES C. TAYLOR, Rector of Christ Church, Lonsdale.

Rev. FRANCIS VINTON, Rector of Trinity Church, Newport.

Rev. MILTON WARD, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.

Rev. HENRY WATERMAN, Rector of St. Stephen's Church, Providence.

Rev. BENJAMIN WATSON, Rector of Zion Church, Newport.



## LIST OF LAY DELEGATES,

CERTIFICATES OF WHOSE ELECTION BY THEIR RESPECTIVE CHURCHES  
WERE PRESENTED AND APPROVED.

---

*Trinity Church, Newport.* Christopher G. Perry,  
Samuel F. Gardner, George Hall, Benjamin Finch.

*Zion Church, Newport.* Stephen T. Northam,  
Charles Devens, Augustus Bush, Henry Y. Cranston.

*St. Paul's Church, Portsmouth.* John Burrington,  
Job Lawton, Joseph Thomas, Borden Chase.

*St. Michael's Church, Bristol.* John G. Harding,  
Joseph M. Blake, Timothy J. Tanner, James D'W.  
Perry.

*St. Mark's Church, Warren.* Haile Collins, Geo.  
G. Hazard, John T. Childs, William Pierce.

*St. John's Church, Providence.* Austin Gurney,  
William G. Goddard, Ezra W. Howard, Robert H.  
Ives.

*Grace Church, Providence.* Richmond Brownell,  
William T. Grinnell, Edward Walcott, Russell War-  
ren.

*St. Stephen's Church, Providence.* John F. Moore,  
Nicholas Stillwell, Resolved Waterman, Robert S.  
Slocum.

*Christ Church, Providence.* James W. Johnson,  
Benjamin Barney, John M. Ray, George Head.

*St. Paul's Church, N. Providence.* Edward S. Wilkinson, Ferdinand Horton, Olney Whipple, Samuel Young.

*Christ Church, Lonsdale.* Stephen Angell, James M. Carpenter, Warren Cooke, George A. Gillmore.

*Church of the Advent, Cumberland, Diamond Hill Plain.* Alexander Thompson, Joseph Whipple, Otis Mason, Alfred Crowninshield.

*Emmanuel Church, Manville.* G. E. Wilson, W. A. I. Wilkinson, Bradbury C. Hill, William C. Beebe.

*St. James's Church, Woonsocket.* Randall Holden, 2d, Stephen N. Mason, E. H. Sprague, David Daniels.

*St. Paul's Church, N. Kingstown.* George B. Thomas, Benoni P. Bates, Gideon Freeborn, John Taylor.

*Ascension Church, Wakefield.* D. C. Hiscox, Willard Hazard, Albert Robinson, George Whitford.

*Christ Church, Westerly.* Edward W. Babcock, Rouse Babcock, Stephen Smith, Edwin Babcock.

Not represented by the Laity: *St. Luke's Church, E. Greenwich; St. Paul's, Tower Hill; St. Matthew's, Jamestown; St. Peter's, Kingston.*

Not represented by Clergy: *Zion, Church, Newport; St. Paul's, Tower Hill; St. Matthew's, Jamestown; St. Peter's, Kingston.*

# JOURNAL.

---

{ *St. Stephen's Church, Providence, R. I.*  
Tuesday, June 13, 1843.

THE Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode-Island, assembled this day, in St. Stephen's Church, Providence, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Morning Prayer was read by the Rev. Mr. Penny, of Manville. The Convention sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Taylor, of Lonsdale. The holy communion was administered by the Rev. Dr. Crocker, of Providence, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Taylor.

The President and Secretary of the preceding Convention having taken their seats, the following Clergymen answered to their names :

|                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rev. James H. Carpenter    | Rev. Samuel Penny, jun. |
| " Azel D. Cole             | " Thomas L. Randolph    |
| " Silas A. Crane           | " James C. Richmond     |
| " Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. | " John H. Rouse         |
| " James H. Eames           | " George Taft           |
| " Thomas F. Fales          | " Charles C. Taylor     |
| " George W. Hathaway       | " Milton Ward           |
| " William H. Newman        | " Henry Waterman        |

The following lay delegates also answered to their names, and took their seats :

|                    |                     |                    |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| John Burrington    | John G. Harding     | Austin Gurney      |
| Borden Chase       | James D'W. Perry    | Ezra W. Howard     |
| Wm. T. Grinnell    | Edward Walcott      | Robert H. Ives     |
| John F. Moore      | Edward S. Wilkinson | Stephen Angell     |
| Nicholas Stillwell | Ferdinand Horton    | George A. Gillmore |
| Resolved Waterman  | Olney Whipple       | G. C. Wilson       |
| Robert S. Slocum   | Samuel Young        | W. A. I. Wilkinson |
| Wm. H. Beebe       | Randall Holden, 2d  | Stephen N. Mason   |
| E. H. Sprague      | David Daniels       | Gideon Freeborn    |
| John Taylor        | D. C. Hiscox        | Willard Hazard     |
| Albert Robinson    | Edward W. Babcock   | Stephen Smith      |
| Edwin Babcock      |                     |                    |

The Rev. Mr. Crane and Edward S. Wilkinson were appointed a committee to examine the credentials of the Clergy and lay delegates.

The Convention then adjourned, to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION, 3 o'clock.

The Convention assembled according to adjournment. The committee appointed in the morning, reported and were discharged. The following lay delegates took their seats :

Stephen T. Northam

William Pearce

The Rev. Dr. Crocker was elected President ; the Rev. Mr. Cole, Secretary.

Clergymen visiting the city and candidates for orders were invited to take seats in the Convention.

The Rev. Mr. Stanly, of the Diocese of Connecticut, took a seat in the Convention.

The following committees were appointed by the Chair :

*On the admission of new Parishes into union with this Convention.*

Clergy.  
George W. Hathaway  
Silas A. Crane  
Thomas F. Fales

Laity.  
Stephen T. Northam  
Edward H. Sprague

#### *On Finance.*

Stephen T. Northam  
Edward S. Wilkinson  
Edwin Babcock

#### *On Unfinished Business.*

George W. Hathaway  
Milton Ward

Randall Holden, 2d

Applications—from the Church of the Advent, Diamond Hill Cumberland, and from Christ Church, Providence, to be admitted into union with this Convention, were received and referred to the proper committee.

The committee appointed to draft a history of the Church in Rhode-Island, made a verbal report, which was accepted, and the committee continued.

The committee appointed at the last annual Convention, to

confer with Wilkins Updike, Esq. as to his wishes respecting the publishing of a history of the Narragansett Church, reported and were discharged.

The Committee on the admission of new Parishes into union with this Convention, reported in favor of the application of the Church of the Advent, Diamond Hill Plain, Cumberland. The report was accepted, and the Parish admitted.

The following gentlemen took their seats in the Convention :

Clergy.  
Francis Vinton

Laity.  
Christopher G. Perry  
Alexander Thompson  
Joseph Whipple  
Otis Mason

The report of the Treasurer of the Convention was read, and referred to the committee on Finance. (See Appendix C.)

The report of the Standing Committee was read and accepted. (See Appendix D.)

The report of the Board of Missions was read and accepted. (See Appendix E.)

The report of the Board of Education was read and accepted. (See Appendix F.)

The report of the Board of Sunday Schools was postponed.

The Parochial Reports were then read. (See Appendix G.)

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to procure of the State Government an Act of Incorporation.

The following gentlemen were appointed said committee.

Clergy.  
George W. Hathaway

Laity.  
David Daniels, *Chairman*  
Samuel Ames  
Stephen T. Northam  
Henry Y. Cranston

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the origin of the Bishop's fund, (so called) of the Eastern Diocese, its amount, and the mode of its present investment—to investigate any facts of material use in ascertaining the amount to which this Diocese would be entitled, upon a division thereof—to confer with any authorized persons (should any exist) upon the principle of making said division, and to report upon the whole matter at the next annual Convention.



The following gentlemen were appointed said committee.

| Clergy.                  | Laity.                         |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. | David Daniels, <i>Chairman</i> |
|                          | William T. Grinnell            |
|                          | Edward S. Wilkinson            |

The resolution passed at the Special Convention, fixing the Bishop's salary at \$400, was referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Convention adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

### WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 14, 1843.

The Convention assembled according to adjournment. Morning prayer was read by the Rev. Mr. Eames, of Wakefield. The Rev. John P. K. Henshaw, D. D. Bishop elect of the Diocese, being present, was invited to a seat at the right hand of the Chair.

The Committee on the admission of new Parishes into union with this Convention, reported in favor of the application of Christ Church, Providence. The report was accepted, and the Church admitted.

The following appointments were made for the ensuing year :

#### *Treasurer.*

Ezra W. Howard

#### *Standing Committee.*

| Clergy.            | Laity.            |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Henry Waterman     | Resolved Waterman |
| Silas A. Crane     | George Mumford    |
| George W. Hathaway | Thomas Burgess    |

#### *Board of Education.*

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Nathan B. Crocker, D. D. | Ezra W. Howard |
| Henry Waterman           |                |

#### *Board of Sunday Schools.*

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Charles C. Taylor | John H. Gilliat |
| Benjamin Watson   |                 |

#### *Preacher before the next annual Convention.*

Silas A. Crane

The expenses of the Special Convention were referred to the Committee on Finance.

*Resolved*, That Canon VII. be altered, so as to read thus :  
 “ Contributions of the Parishes for the support of the Bishop shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Convention, who shall report annually to the Convention.

The Committee on Finance reported upon the various matters referred to them, which reports were accepted. (See Appendix H.)

The following pledges were made to the Board of Education :

|                                |   |   |   |   |       |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---|-------|
| St. John's Church, Providence, | - | - | - | - | \$100 |
| Grace “ “                      | - | - | - | - | 100   |
| St. James's “ Woonsocket,      | - | - | - | - | 20    |

*Resolved*, That in all such cases, where the individuals or Churches which pledge to this Convention for the Board of Education, pay their pledges directly to the Beneficiary, they shall transmit to the Treasurer of said Board evidence of such payment, that he may embody the same in his annual report.

The Secretary and Treasurer were directed to cause 1000 copies of the Journal of this Convention to be printed, and transmitted to the different Parishes.

The next annual Convention was appointed to be held in Zion Church, Newport, the 2d Tuesday in June, 1844, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to the Rector and Congregation of St. Stephen's Church, Providence, for their kind attentions and hospitality.

The Convention then adjourned with the singing of Psalm CVII. and the Benediction.

AZEL D. COLE, *Secretary of the Convention.*



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APPENDIX.

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## A.

PROVIDENCE, JUNE 5, 1843.

At a meeting of the Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ Church, holden in the Church on Monday, in Whitsun-week, A. D. 1843, it was

*Voted*, That Christ Church does conform to the doctrines, discipline and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church, to the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention, and also to the same as established in the Diocese of Rhode-Island. Also,

*Voted*, That James W. Johnson, Benjamin Barney, John M. Ray and George Head, be a committee to represent this Church, and to request that it be admitted into union with the Convention of the Church in Rhode-Island, and to act as delegates to the same on June 13 and 14, 1843.

GEORGE HEAD, *Clerk of the Church.*

JAMES W. JOHNSON, } *Wardens.*  
JOHN M. RAY, }

GEORGE HEAD, }  
THOS. HOWLAND, }  
LEWIS FEGURADO, }  
JAMES SCOTT, jun. } *Vestry-men,*  
JOSIAH J. BOWEN, }  
SAMUEL DORRELL, }  
BENJAMIN BARNEY, }  
ABRAHAM BIGNAL, }  
ABRA'M GARDNER, }

## B.

CUMBERLAND, R. I. DIAMOND HILL PLAIN, }  
 MAY 22, 1843. }

At a regular meeting of the Wardens and Vestry-men of the Church of the Advent, in Cumberland, R. I. of which meeting due notice had been given, by public advertisement on a previous Sunday, eight days before, and to which each member of the Vestry was called by a written notice three days previous to the meeting, and signed by the two Wardens, it was

*Resolved*, That this, the Church of the Advent, does conform to the doctrines, discipline and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of North America, in union with the General Convention, and to the same as established in the Diocese of Rhode-Island.

ALEXANDER THOMPSON, *Senior Warden.*

JOSEPH WHIPPLE, *Junior Warden.*

OTIS MASON, *Sec. pro tem. of Vestry,*

ALFRED CROWNINSHIELD,

WILLARD NEWELL,

GLADDING O. THOMPSON,

JAMES THOMPSON,

} *Vestry-*  
*men.*

5.

DR. PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF R. ISLAND *in acct. with* EZRA W. HOWARD, Tr. CR.

| 1842.                                                                                            | 1843. | 1842.                                                                                       | 1843.    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| June 12. To cash paid Bishop's travelling expenses, \$11                                         |       | By balance (old account),                                                                   | \$11 41  |
| July 12. To " " H. H. Brown's bill for printing Journal of Convention, 96                        |       | By cash rec'd of St. John's Church, Providence, as their proportion of Convention expenses, |          |
| Sept. 16. To cash paid balance of J. Dow's bill, for printing Journal of Convention for 1841, 30 |       | By do. of Grace Church, Providence,                                                         | 18       |
| June. 1843. To cash paid Secretary's bill for postage, stationery, and record book, 3 85         |       | " " St. Stephen's, "                                                                        | 18       |
| To balance new acct. 11 41                                                                       |       | " " Trinity Church, Newport,                                                                | 9 60     |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " Zion, "                                                                                 | 12       |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " St. Paul's " N. Providence,                                                             | 7 20     |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " St. Michael's, Bristol,                                                                 | 9 60     |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " St. Mark's, Warren,                                                                     | 7 20     |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " Christ Church, Lonsdale,                                                                | 12 25    |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " St. James's, Woonsocket,                                                                | 6        |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " Christ Church, Westerly,                                                                | 6        |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " St. Paul's, Portsmouth,                                                                 | 2 40     |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " Emmanuel, Manville,                                                                     | 4 90     |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " St. Luke's, E. Greenwich,                                                               | 4 90     |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " St. Paul's, Wickford,                                                                   | 2 40     |
|                                                                                                  |       | " " Ascension, Wakefield,                                                                   | 2 40     |
|                                                                                                  |       |                                                                                             | \$152 26 |

The Finance Committee have examined and compared the within account with the vouchers, and find it correct.

*Providence, June 14, 1843.*

The whole amount assessed by the Finance Committee for the expenses of the Episcopate, (with the exception of \$5 80 3rd dau) has been transmitted to the Treasurer of the Bishop's fund.

## D.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE STANDING  
COMMITTEE OF THE DIOCESE OF R. ISLAND, FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING, JUNE, 1843.

The committee was organized July 11, 1842, by the election of Rev. N. B. Crocker, D. D. as President, and Rev. H. Waterman, as Secretary.

They have during the year recommended Henry N. Pierce to the Bishop, to be admitted as a candidate for Holy Orders.

The following persons, candidates for Holy Orders, have been recommended to the Bishop to be admitted to the Holy Order of Deacons, viz.

James H. Carpenter,  
Benjamin Franklin,  
John B. Richmond,  
Nicholas P. Tillinghast.

The following persons, Deacons, have been recommended to the Bishop to be admitted to the Priesthood, viz.

Rev. Azel D. Cole,  
Rev. John Wayland,  
Rev. James H. Eames.

Official consent has been given to the consecration of Rev. Manton Eastburn, D. D. to be assistant Bishop of Massachusetts.

Letters dismissory have been granted to Rev. Alexander Crummel, Deacon, transferring him to the Diocese of Pennsylvania; and to the Rev. Alexander Burgess, Deacon, transferring him to the Diocese of Connecticut.

And on the 27th February, in obedience to the provisions of the 12th Article of the Constitution of the Church in this Diocese, a special Convention of the Parishes in union with the Convention was summoned by the Committee, to meet in St. Stephen's Church, April 6, for the election of a Bishop, or for making some other provision for the Episcopal supervision of the Diocese.

H. WATERMAN, *Secretary.*

*Providence, June 13, 1843.*

## E.

## THE THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MISSIONARY CONVOCATION TO THE CONVENTION OF  
THE DIOCESE.

The Missionary Convocation of the Church in this Diocese, in presenting their Annual Report to the Convention, would begin by acknowledging with humble gratitude the measure of grace and blessing which God has bestowed upon them. Of his goodness he has permitted us to work in his vineyard another year. Our meetings have been not less frequent than in years past. For the most part, they have been well attended, both by the Clergy, and by the people of the parishes where they were held; and we trust that the presence of the heavenly Spirit has often been felt among us, in the gentle showers of his refreshing grace, if not in the visible demonstrations of his converting power.

This Report covers the year, from April, 1842, to April, 1843, during which period Convocations have been held at places and times as follow:—

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| In St. John's Church, Providence, | May, 1842 |
| “ “ James's, Woonsocket,          | June, “   |
| “ “ Michael's, Bristol,           | June, “   |
| “ “ Luke's, East-Greenwich,       | July, “   |
| “ Ascension, Wakefield.           | Aug. “    |
| “ St. Paul's, Portsmouth,         | Oct. “    |
| “ “ “ Wickford,                   | Nov. “    |
| “ “ Michael's, Bristol,           | Jan. 1843 |
| “ “ Mark's, Warren,               | Feb. “    |
| “ “ John's, Providence,           | March, “  |
| “ “ Stephen's, “                  | April, “  |

The meetings in St. Michael's in June, and in St. Stephen's in April, were for business only. At the others, full services were had, and we trust that fruit has been, and yet will be seen from them.

From the Report of the Treasurer, it appears that the receipts of the year have been,

|                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
|                             | \$1834 75 |
| The expenditures,           | 1761 55   |
| Balance in Treasury, May 8, | \$73 20   |



The expenditures above referred to were made, in accordance with the purpose for which the money was placed at our disposal, in aid of poor parishes, and in efforts to gather and nurture new Churches in different parts of the State. The parishes aided the past year are those of Ascension Church, Wakefield, St. Paul's, Wickford, St. Luke's, East-Greenwich, St. Paul's, Portsmouth, St. Matthew's, Jamestown, St. Stephen's Providence, and St. James's, Woonsocket. A new parish has been formed at Diamond Hill Plain, in Cumberland; and efforts to form others have been made in other places, some of which it is hoped, will yet be crowned with success.

In continuance of their Report, the Convocation deem themselves called on to state, that there are, it is believed, some places in our little Diocese, wholly without Christian instruction; and many others almost so. This very destitution is itself an urgent appeal to our sympathies. But the appeal is made stronger by the fact, that in several of these places a decided preference is felt and expressed for the Gospel in the Church. In view of these facts, the Convocation, in January last, resolved to appoint a Missionary at large, whose business should be to visit those places throughout the State, and wherever he should be favorably received, there to make efforts for the permanent establishment of the Church. To this office the Rev. James C. Richmond was appointed. His first efforts were at Diamond Hill Plain; and at this place he has formed a new parish. In May last, a Convocation was held in this parish; and the Clergy attending it were both gratified and encouraged. Mr. Richmond has also visited several other destitute places, in all of which, it is believed, decided and valuable impressions have been made. It is but strict justice to add, that for all these zealous and persevering exertions, Mr. Richmond receives no compensation.

In their last Report, the Convocation presented another subject to the thoughts of the Convention, and it is one so intimately connected with the permanent growth and future well-being of our Church, that we think it cannot be too often or too earnestly pressed upon the minds of intelligent Churchmen. We mean the establishment of an Episcopal School within the Diocese. It is believed that such a school might easily be put into operation; and that with but little fostering care, it would soon combine advantages which would make it the interest as well as the duty of parents to put their children under its care. We cannot here dwell on the subject; nor is it at all necessary. The immediate and ever-growing influence which a School established and conducted on the principles of the Church must always exert in her behalf, and the facilities which it would afford her members

for the sound and Christian education of their children, are too obvious to require illustration. May the Church at once see her interest, and do her duty in this matter.

In concluding this Report, our thoughts are mournfully turned to the painful bereavement, which we have sustained, within the year, in the removal from his earthly labors of our Rt. Rev. Father, the official head both of the Convocation and the Convention. At our last annual meeting, we were blessed with the presence of his venerable form, and the counsels of his gentle wisdom. Now we mourn their loss. The assembled flocks of our Israel see not among them that Chief Shepherd, whose affectionate voice and faithful leadings they have so long been accustomed to follow. Yet in this our bereavement and sorrow, we are not without consolation and hope. Our absent Father is gone to his reward, and the great Shepherd and Bishop over all still lives. He will not leave his flock without an earthly shepherd. Already, indeed, have we been enabled to select another to go in and out before us. Let our fervent and united prayers ascend to the Giver of all grace and every blessing, that the mantle of our departed Father may fall on him, who, having formerly been his son in the Gospel, is now to be his successor in the high and responsible office of Chief Pastor to this portion of Christ's earthly flock.

N. B. CROCKER, *President.*

AZEL D. COLE, *Secretary.*

## THE MISSIONARY AT LARGE REPORTS:

### I. CAUSE OF THE PLAN.

That he spent the summer of 1842 in Little Compton, a town in the south part of Rhode-Island, where the Church has been wholly unknown, except through the annual visit of the Bishop of Connecticut to his father's house, and the occasional ministrations of the Bishop, of the Missionary, and of his brother, the Rev. William Richmond, of New-York. Having begun the mission to the Mohammedans, and being hindered from offering himself freely to that work, in order that the reproach resting on the Church these many ages might be wiped away, and that the glad tidings might reach the perishing and deluded followers of the Eastern Impostor, for whom the Church yearly *prays* and nothing *does* ; hindered, (as our departed Bishop intimates, in the conclusion of his last Pastoral letter on the Reformation,) by the want of that wisdom in the Anglo-Catholic, which has ever distinguished the Romish branch of the Church, he concluded to *wait*, and in the mean while to turn his attention to "the sheep scattered without a shepherd," at home.

### II. PLAN, APPROVED BY BISHOP GRISWOLD.

The result was, a plan first acted upon Dec. 4, 1842, at the Smithfield factory, and submitted Dec. 19 to the lamented Bishop Griswold, on the last evening which he ever spent in this State. The Bishop then said, in presence of the Rev. Messrs. Taft, Taylor and Carpenter, "I am happy to see you here, Mr. — ; you can do a great deal for us by going about and gathering the people together." The plan, fully explained in a letter to the Bishop shortly afterwards, was, by his own hand, carried to the office of the Christian Witness, and may be found in the early part of the volume of that paper for this year. The Bishop then fully, and often since, as many can testify, approved of the enterprise. This is mentioned, because he was wise, and because there is opposition to the undertaking, or to the manner of conducting it. As the Missionary was ever, since his ordination, intimate with, and approved by, this venerated man of God, he is willing to have it fully understood that Bishop Griswold's opinion outweighs, in his mind, all possible gainsaying.

## III. NEED OF THE PLAN.

January 1, 1843, the Missionary began under his regular appointment by the Convocation, or Missionary Board for R. Island, with the Bishop at their head, at *Diamond Hill Plain, Cumberland, R. I.* This place was destitute of nearly all religious instruction; the Sunday was spent in hunting, fishing, playing at ball, at cards, or in similar amusements; many persons were never known to enter a place of worship; all kinds of heresies, fables, falsehoods and sectarianism had been preached occasionally, for the last century, or since the settlement of the place; infidelity had become rife, and indifference was nearly universal. Not a baptized person in fifty could be found; and in the course of one morning, the Missionary has visited thirty families, where only one or two had received that sacrament, and then from unauthorized hands;—of four aged women, over fourscore years of age, whom he saw that morning, *three* were unbaptized, and the *fourth* said, “I was sprinkled when I was an infant; but I don’t know that that was anything.”

## IV. MODE OF CONDUCTING THE PLAN.

The difference between this, and similar efforts in behalf of the gospel of Christ, is mainly this: it has been usual to imagine the people prejudiced against the second best book, or as Robert Hall, the eminent Baptist preacher, (to which testimony add Adam Clarke, the Methodist, and others,) says, “the greatest of uninspired productions,” the book of Common Prayer. The Missionary thought, they cannot dislike so good a book and began (not by hiding his Prayer Book in his pocket,) but by saying, “Good people, we pray out of a book, because the Church since the Apostles’ time, and before, (the Jewish Church) always did so, and it is the best way: will you help me, as this service was made by the martyrs for the priest and the people; and since we are all miserable sinners, preacher and people, please to take these books and confess with me, and upon your knees, your sins and mine to Almighty God. They did so, and children’s voices were heard. *Missionary.* We have one Father, pray with me, Our Father, as the Lord taught his Apostles. They did. *Missionary.* Psalms for the first day of the month are on *such a page*; and in David’s time the people responded to the priests and the priests to the people; illustrated by Psalm xxiv.) all who do not object to reading the Psalms of David, and wish to do as the Church of God has done for many thousand years, since and before Moses, (Exodus xv.) will now rise and do as the communion of saints or the Church of God, here, in England, and all over the world does to-day, &c.



## V. THE SUCCESS,

Has been, as the Missionary believes, almost unparalleled. The results, in brief, are these:

1. At Diamond Hill Plain, the Church of the Advent, (the name an enduring monument against the periodical delusion just now named *Millerism*, which has blasted that neighborhood this year; e. g. there stands now a Miller tent four miles distant from the Plain) has been organized; ten of the most substantial men within three miles have become Vestrymen; and with many others are warmly interested in the prosperity of the Church; two thirds of the money towards erecting a neat Church (for about \$2000 on a plan by Mr. Warren) have been subscribed *in the place*; no application has been made abroad as yet, nor any assistance received, except in the services of the Rev. Messrs. Carpenter and Penny and several of the Clergy; the Convocation has been held to the entire satisfaction of all present; a convenient building (Masonic Hall) has been obtained; (we met at first in a school-house;) an organ has been procured, and one of the ladies has nearly learned its use, assistance being obtained meanwhile from the gratuitous services of Mr. William Whiting; about fifty prayer books have been sold and paid for; there are nearly one hundred regular attendants, of whom more than half respond; the Holy Communion has been once administered; four or five persons are awaiting the other sacrament; a Sunday school has been established, and one hundred children attended its celebration on July 4th, with the Christ Church Sunday school and people (180) from Lonsdale; twenty volumes have been bought for the Sabbath school, with the *unasked* contributions of the people; a choir of thirty singers has been organized; a sewing circle (which its members had scarcely heard of before) has been formed, and July 4th (with some assistance from ladies of Grace Church and St. John's, Providence, and much from Lonsdale) they received about \$100; the Missionary has been made Rector, and the Church received into union with the Convention, and was represented by three venerable delegates, &c. &c. &c.

2. Besides these things, the Missionary has spent one month at Saratoga Springs, and more than two weeks in the south part of this State, Wickford, Conanicut, &c. commenced a Church (which now flourishes under the Rev. Mr. Randolph) at the Dry Brook school-house, in Johnston, officiated several times with good attendance at Lime Rock and the Smithfield factory, and preached (with the regular morning service, chants, &c. under the *Catholic Oak*, in the open air, at 7, A. M. with large and orderly congregations, having been expell-



ed by one of the sects from a neighboring school-house. There is much more to be said, but the Missionary has not time, and the Journal will not (probably) allow room. This statement is made in the utmost haste, has been prepared in a few minutes, and its errors will, or ought to be, excused. It affords, however, full proof that if the Clergy and laymen do a small part of their duty, the Church of God must and will every where go on conquering and to conquer.

## F.

The Board of Education respectfully submit to the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Rhode-Island, the following

## REPORT:

At the annual meeting, on the 14th of June last, the Board was organized by the choice of the Rev. Dr. Crocker, as President; the Rev. Henry Waterman, as Treasurer, and William G. Goddard, as Secretary. Since that time, the Board has held no meeting, and its operations have required none.

During the past year, Henry N. Pierce, and Charles R. Fisher, have been assisted by funds committed to the disposal of this Board. To each of them the sum of \$37 50 is now due, for the payment of which the Treasury has no adequate means.

For further information concerning the receipts and expenditures for the past year, the Convention is referred to the Report of the Treasurer of the Board.

WILLIAM G. GODDARD, *Secretary.*

June 13, 1843.

## G.

## PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

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TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT:

The Rector of Trinity Church, Newport, respectfully reports to the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese, agreeably to the general Canons, that during the last Conventional year, the parish has enjoyed the smiles of Divine favor.

The following statistics exhibit the official acts of the Rector and the ecclesiastical condition of the parish: Baptisms—adults, 15; infants, 24; total, 39. Communicants—last report, 200; added, 40; died, 2; repelled, 3; removed, 20; present number, 215. Marriages, 6; burials, 7; schools—parochial, 1; Sunday, 2; Sunday school scholars, 205; do. teachers, 28; libraries—parochial, 2—one designed for the Rector's use, and given in A. D. 1702, by the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, containing about 60 standard volumes; one designed for the parish, and specially for Sunday school teachers, of about 150 volumes; one for our Sunday school, of about 700 volumes; total, 3 libraries, and about 910 volumes.

The Rector has catechized the children every month, "openly in the Church;" he has instructed a Ladies' Bible class until Lent, on Tuesday P. M. and a Men's Bible class, since Easter, on Sunday evenings. In the evening of the first Sunday of the month, the Missionary meeting has been held during the year. There has been likewise a lecture after evening prayer, on Wednesdays or Fridays, and teachers' meetings on Friday evening; the teachers generally have also met at the Rector's house, for prayer, on the Saturday evenings before Communion Sunday.

The Lentine services were morning and evening prayer on Litany-days, and every day in Passion week, followed by a familiar and practical discourse on the petitions in the Litany, as the texts. All the Holy-days have been sacredly observed by morning prayer in the Church. The Rector has also officiated several times in St. Matthew's Church, Jamestown.

A small band of the female communicants, with commendable industry and encouraging zeal, have met from time to time in a sewing circle, for missionary objects, and contributed more than one hundred dollars to the great cause, by their pious labors. May the Lord reward them. Some of the Sunday school teachers have also met together in the winter, to provide garments for poor children.

The benefactions of the parish, which have passed through the established channels during the year past, have amounted to a sum somewhat exceeding \$1500, which has been appropriated to diocesan and general foreign and domestic missions, to the Education Board of the Diocese, and to the distribution of Bibles, Prayer-Books, tracts on board vessels sailing from the harbor of Newport, and among the people in the town and vicinity, and for other miscellaneous objects. The Church sustains one scholarship of \$100 per annum, and three African children at the mission school at Cape Palmas. Two of the communicants are candidates for Holy Orders, pursuing their theological studies with the Rector. One of them is the teacher in the parochial school, and has charge of an adult class on Sundays; the other is the Superintendent of the Sunday school.

There has been, as heretofore, a steady monthly increase of its Communion; an enlarged attendance on the public services, indications of a general and deepening interest in things pertaining to God; and, in a few instances, the signal manifestations of the Holy Spirit, in the regeneration of some members of the congregation.

The parish has likewise participated, in an unusual measure, in the providential mercies of God. Besides a general social prosperity, they have been uncommonly exempted from sickness, and spared the bereavements of death. No evil hath befallen us, neither hath any plague come nigh our dwelling.

We can make no adequate return to the Lord for all His benefits; but may only take the cup of salvation and call upon His holy name, and pay our vows in the presence of all His people. May His grace enable us to show our gratitude by giving up ourselves devotedly to His service, and by walking before Him in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Submitted by

FRANCIS VINTON, *Rector.*

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#### ZION CHURCH, NEWPORT.

The Rector of this Church makes the following Report: 127 communicants are connected with the Church: there have been baptized,

during the year, 12 infants and 20 adults; \$144 have been contributed to missions out of the Diocese: I have performed the marriage service twice, and buried 8 persons: In our Sunday schools we have about 300 children, and a very efficient corps of teachers: about 25 young men attend a Bible class, which is held weekly. I may add, that through God's blessing, our parish, both spiritually and temporally, is in a very prosperous condition.

BENJAMIN WATSON, *Rector*.

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#### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PORTSMOUTH.

Communicants added, 8; died, 1; present number, 23. Marriages, 3; burials, 7; Sunday school teachers, 11; scholars, about 80; volumes in the library, about 200; contributed to the funds of the General Board of Missions, \$11 06. The condition of this Parish continues slowly to improve. An increase of attendance on public worship, of a disposition to contribute to the support of religious institutions, and of interest in the general welfare of the Redeemer's kingdom, is, to some extent, apparent among us, and may be regarded as evidence that God has not wholly withholden from us his blessing.

Since our last report to the Convention, a most valued female member of our communion has been removed from us by death; yet we would thankfully praise the Great Head of the Church, not only for her good example, but for the confidence which we are permitted to cherish, that the mantle of her lovely piety has fallen on a surviving sister, who, with one other individual, is now ready to receive the holy ordinance of baptism.

Our Female Missionary Association continues to increase in strength and zeal, its pledge to the Convocation, for the ensuing year, exceeding every former pledge by the sum of \$25.

The Rector would gratefully acknowledge the kindly charity, which, during his ministry in Portsmouth, has been so often extended to him by his Christian friends in Newport, Bristol and Providence. May the Lord reward them a hundred fold.

Amidst all the discouragements which beset us, not the least of which is a small parish debt, we would cast our burdens on Him who is an Almighty Helper, praying for grace to be more faithful, humble and holy, that we may be counted not unworthy to receive even a rich blessing, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

MILTON WARD, *Rector*.



## ST. MARK'S CHURCH, WARREN.

The undersigned is happy in being able to report this parish as still enjoying the Divine favor, in the continuance of its wonted harmonious and prosperous condition. There have been during the past conventional year, baptisms, infants, 6; adults, 7; total number, 13; burials by the Rector, 11; marriages by do. 4; communicants died, 1; removed, 1; added, 11; present number of communicants, 149; contributions for charitable and religious objects out of the parish, about \$260. The Sunday school numbers 118 scholars and 24 teachers, and about 300 volumes in the library. It is flourishing, and by monthly contributions supports two beneficiaries in the African mission.

GEORGE W. HATHAWAY, *Rector*.

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## ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

The parish register exhibits the following as the statistics of the past conventional year: 20 baptisms (of which 4 were of adults;) 2 marriages, and 2 funerals: 14 have been added to the list of communicants; 6 have died; present number, 90.

The Sunday school is favored with a good degree of prosperity. It enjoys the oversight of a Superintendent and 14 teachers. The number of pupils is 100, of whom the average attendance is 70.

The labors of the sewing circle have been attended with a gratifying measure of success. The sum of \$140 has gone forth from its treasury for the promotion of missionary and other benevolent objects.

With regard to the general condition of the parish since our last report, we have to confess that but a very few souls among us have sought and obtained an interest in the "great salvation" of the gospel; and that among those who profess and call themselves Christians, there are too many who entertain inadequate views of the evangelical duty of PROGRESS. Our hope is, that the coming year may witness a revival of the Lord's work in our midst.

H. WATERMAN, *Rector*.

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## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, NORTH-PROVIDENCE.

The Rector of St. Paul's Church, North-Providence, reports—baptisms, 8; confirmations, 9; communicants, 187; marriages, 12; fune-

rals, 7; Sunday school scholars, 150; Superintendent, 1; teachers, 21; librarian and assistant, 2; Sunday school library, 400 volumes; Bible classes, 2; for Missions in this State, \$100; for Foreign and Domestic Boards of Missions, \$92; for Education, \$25; for Bishop's fund, \$17 40.

The children are catechized once a month. During the long days of the summer, a children's Church is occasionally held: they sustain the responsive parts of the service, and an appropriate discourse is preached to them. In addition to the services on the Sabbath, all the Saints' and other days for which a service has been prescribed by the Church, have been carefully observed. Extensive repairs and improvements have been made upon the Church edifice, adding much to its beauty and convenience. A spacious, light and airy room has been formed under it, for the Sunday school and evening lectures. The grounds around it are being tastefully laid out and put in beautiful order.

GEORGE TAFT, *Rector*.

#### CHRIST CHURCH, LONSDALE.

During the last conventional year there have been 12 baptisms, 7 adults and 5 infants; burials, 18; confirmations, 13; communicants—died, 2; suspended, 2; removed, 10; added, 14; total, 79. Appropriations—General Board of Foreign and Domestic Missions, \$85; Missionary Convocation of the Church in Rhode-Island, \$45; other religious purposes, about \$30. From 150 to \$200 have been expended in improvements on the Church. We design to celebrate public worship on all those occasions for which the Church in her wisdom has made provision.

The services during Passion and Easter weeks were peculiarly impressive and profitable. Our Sunday school has not varied materially from the last report. The average number of scholars and teachers has been 123;—100 scholars and 23 teachers.

With commendable zeal, the ladies of the parish have raised, by a public fair, \$150 towards defraying the expenses of the Church.

The last year has been one of fearful prospects to the Church; yet the steady course she has pursued amid the political hurricane of the day, has increased the attachment to her of those within her pale, and gained for her the esteem and affection of many without. I cannot report that intense interest in religion, which would be most grat-

ifying, yet I have never witnessed a more conscientious adherence to the Church, nor seen her services better attended than at present.

CHARLES C. TAYLOR, *Rector*.

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### EMMANUEL CHURCH, MANVILLE.

The records of this parish during the last conventional year, furnish the following statement: Baptisms—infants, 3; adults, 11; total, 14; communicants added, 14; removed, 1; present number, 32; funerals, 8; four of which were out of the parish.

During the past year, owing to the protracted ill health of the Rector, he was compelled, for a short time, to relinquish the charge of the parish. His place was supplied by the Rev. Mr. Carpenter, who has been associated with him in the labors of the parish since the 1st of January last. Under our joint efforts, by the blessing of God, we have been favored with uninterrupted prosperity. The attention to religion has been very encouraging, indicated not only by the general deportment, but also by the steady increase of our congregations on the Sabbath. In addition to this, the effectual operations of God's Spirit have been manifested in adding unto His Church of such, as we trust, will be saved, in the day when the Lord shall make up his jewels. We are happy to report an extensive interest in the concerns of the soul among the young. A number of these have become hopelessly pious, and only wait that the nature of their impressions may be suitably tested, before they are received as members of the flock of Christ.

Our services during the week consist of the following: The two regular services of the Sabbath, a lecture on Thursday evening, and a Bible class, or more properly speaking, a catechetical class, on Friday evening, Dixon & Smith's manual being the basis of instruction.

Our Sunday school is in a very flourishing condition. It is sustained by an efficient Superintendent, and the punctual attendance and Christian fidelity of 10 teachers. The average number of scholars is about 90; number of volumes in the library, 200. Connected with the school is an adult Bible class. The instructions given to this class are intended not only for the individual benefit of its members, but with the view also of qualifying them for the responsible duty of teachers, whenever their services shall be required. The circumstances of the parish being unfavorable to the continuance of the sewing circle, a plan of systematic charity has been adopted in its

stead. This plan consists in weekly offerings, after the apostolic model. The contributions proceeding from this source will form a general fund, from which appropriations will be made to the various objects of Christian benevolence. It should be recorded, also, with gratitude to the Giver of all grace, that the members of the Church meet regularly twice in the week, for social prayer—prayer for themselves individually and as a Church. That an answer has been vouchsafed to their supplications we cannot doubt, and that much of the spiritual prosperity which we at present enjoy, is to be attributed to the acceptance with which these addresses have been met at the throne of grace.

It is gratifying to know that the piety of our members—deriving its origin and its strength from the Spirit of God—is further sustained by a growing attachment to our Liturgy, and an intelligent apprehension of the principles of our Church. That God would continue to bless them as He has done in times past, is the grateful prayer of their Rector,

SAMUEL PENNY, jun.

#### ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, WOONSOCKET.

Baptized, during the past conventional year, 8 adults and 6 infants; total, 14; married, 7; buried, 8; confirmed, 4; added to the communion, 14; removed, 4; died, 1; present number, 80. The usual services are two upon the Lord's day, and one during the week. The Church is also opened on all the leading festivals and fasts of the Christian year. The "offerings" of the parish during the year ending with last December, amounted to \$100. The ladies' sewing circle, with its usual industry, has raised with the year ending last April, \$125.

AZEL DOW COLE, *Rector*.

#### ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, EAST-GREENWICH

It is believed that the condition of this Church has improved during the past year. The attendance on public worship is constant, and has evidently increased. There have been three services on Sunday; and for most of the year, a lecture during the week. The principal fasts and festivals have been duly observed.

The Sunday school has increased, and now numbers about 60. A valuable addition has been made to its library. The ladies con-



tinue to deserve commendation for their zealous and untiring efforts to aid the Church.

Communicants, 5 added, present number, 37; baptized, 8—6 children, 2 adults; buried, 5—3 children, 2 adults; marriages, 2. Offerings of the Church for general missionary and diocesan purposes, \$30.

S. A. CRANE, *Rector*.

#### CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, WAKEFIELD.

The statistics from the parish records for the past conventional year, are as follows: Baptisms—adults, 7; marriages, 2; burials, 2. Communicants transferred from St. Paul's, Tower Hill, to this Church, 13; from St. Matthew's, Jamestown, 1. These, added to the number received by baptism the past year, make the whole number of communicants 21. Families visited, 38; distance between the two extremes of the parish visited, 10 miles. The ladies have been active in their labors of love in the sewing circle. \$65 have been raised by them for convocational and other missionary purposes. The Sunday school is at present encouraging.

Besides the usual labors of my own parish, I have preached about twenty sermons at St. Matthew's, Jamestown, baptized 7, and administered the holy communion once.

It will be perceived by the above statistics, that previous to the past year, there were no communicants in connection with the Church of the Ascension. This being a new parish, and previous to my entrance upon its duties, associated with the parish of St. Paul's, Tower Hill, the affairs of the one were so merged in the other, as seeming to form but one parish. Yet previous to this year, as the records will show, there had been no transfer of communicants made from St. Paul's to this parish. This transfer of communicants has been gradual, in accordance with the advice of our late beloved Bishop, and it has worked admirably; it has given us strength by union of numbers, and formed a nucleus about which some have already gathered, and we trust in God many more are destined to be gathered.

JAMES H. EAMES, *Minister*.

#### CHRIST CHURCH, WESTERLY.

During the past year, it has pleased the great Head of the Church to smile upon us as a parish, and I am able to record through His



goodness, that a number of communicants have been added to the Church. For some time after our annual Convention, no unusual interest of a spiritual kind could be perceived; the attendance upon divine ordinances was regular, and the Church manifested a deep interest in behalf of many, who were apparently engaged in the devotional services, and who were regular hearers of the gospel, but no evidence of the power of religion appeared. But from what subsequently took place, our case seemed illustrated in our Lord's parable, Mark iv. 26: "So is the kingdom of God as if a man should cast seed into the ground; and should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how." Such appeared to be the awakening and progress of a work of grace upon the hearts of many in the parish. And in process of time, the altar was surrounded with candidates for baptism. There stood the Sunday school scholar, and the venerable, gray-headed hearer. In some instances, the first spiritual fruits from families; in others, the last member brought to Christ. Some who had been long prayed for, but the least hopeful, were added; and others, who had been nursed in the cradle of piety. And with these special blessings, the Church appeared *revived* in the graces of the Holy Spirit. I have received by baptism, 25 adults. I have received to the Lord's Supper, 36, and, according to present circumstances, I expect a goodly number to be confirmed. I have to report of marriages, 6; of burials, 4; of dismissal by letter, 1. The whole number of communicants, 129. Our Sunday school at one period seemed to decline; it has lately revived, through a renewed exertion of the teachers; scholars, 86; teachers, 17; library, 500 volumes. For missionary objects the last year, the sum collected is \$136. To domestic and foreign missions, \$77; to one beneficiary, \$44. Balance on hand, collected since, \$14. Considerable exertions have been made to remove a debt long remaining on the Church. The following communication was handed me by the Wardens:

"The pews in our Church, excepting those designed to be free, have all recently been taken; and the proprietors, with the same liberal spirit and Christian charity which have hitherto prompted them, have already adopted means for the immediate payment of the balance of the Church debt."

And the last, yet by no means the least, the ladies' sewing society are always at the post of duty, and have conveyed, through the hands of their Pastor, the sum pledged to the Rhode-Island Convocation.

"Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name be all the glory."

WILLIAM H. NEWMAN, *Rector*.

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#### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, WICKFORD.

Baptisms—adults, 2; infants, 2; total, 4; burials, 9; marriages, 2; communicants—added, 6; died or removed, 5; suspended, 1; present number, 61. Sunday school teachers, 12; scholars, about 60; books in library, 300. Contributed for missionary and other charitable purposes, about \$100.

The condition of this parish has not materially changed since our last annual report. At the present time, there is very little spiritual interest manifested, though the ordinary means of grace are diligently used, and tolerably well attended; and we can only hope and pray that the good seed sown may yet spring up and bear fruit to the glory of God.

JOHN H. ROUSE, *Rector*.

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The undersigned respectfully reports, that his ability for parochial duty continues much the same as when he resigned his cure;—that during the year last passed, he has performed service and preached three times in St. James's Church, Woonsocket, twice in Grace and once in Christ Church, Providence, and three times in St. Paul's Church, Wickford. He has also administered the Holy Communion once in Grace and once in Christ Church, Providence; and generally throughout the year, has rendered such assistance in the performance of parochial duty, as has been required of him by his Rev. Brother Rouse.

LEMUEL BURGE, *Minister, residing at Wickford*.

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Immediately after my ordination, in July last, I officiated four months in the parish of Emmanuel Church, Manville, the Rector of the Church, the Rev. Samuel Penny, jun. having been compelled from ill health temporarily to suspend his labors. In connection with this last charge, I served from January until May, as Missionary of the Rhode-Island Convocation, at the newly formed parish of the Church of the Advent, Diamond Hill Plain, Cumberland—preaching there each Sunday afternoon and evening, and on Monday evenings at a neighboring school-house.

Particulars in reference to these parishes will be reported by their respective Rectors.

JAMES H. CARPENTER, *Deacon*.

Since the last annual meeting of the Convention, I have officiated as Assistant to the Rector of St. Michael's Church, Bristol, up to the time of his resignation on Easter Monday last. Since that time, I have had temporary charge of Grace Church, Providence.

THOMAS F. FALES.

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#### CHRIST CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

The pulpit of this Church was supplied by me, for four months from the 25th of December last. During that time, besides the usual Sunday services, there has been an extra service in the evening; and whatever festivals and fasts have occurred, have been duly observed, as the Prayer Book provides. The children have been regularly catechized, and in the recitations of each month, have invariably exhibited an improvement upon those of the preceding. Although the Church is burdened with a debt, the congregations have been good, and their interest in the services appears to have been regular and unremitted.

During the four months of my connection with this church, there were added to the communion 6 adults, 3 by baptism, 2 from the Baptist sect, and 1 who was baptized in infancy. I have also baptized 13 children.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, *Deacon*.

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#### ROCKVILLE, JOHNSTON.

I entered upon my duties as Missionary at Rockville, on the 2d Sunday in October last. I have preached for the greater part of the time twice on Sunday, and during a part of the time held a familiar lecture during the week. I also organized a Sunday school in the fall, which has been continued during the winter; the number of scholars averaging about 15, and teachers 4, which has increased somewhat since the opening of spring. I found one baptized adult in my congregation, and have added three others, one of whom has removed. My congregation at this station averages 50. Though small, it manifests an increasing interest in the services, and is very anxious that they should be continued. We have been disappointed in the hope of the erection of a building, but we cannot doubt that if the effort is continued, one will be erected by another spring. Our congregation comprises many of the most substantial farmers in the neighborhood. A ladies' sewing circle has been formed, which numbers about 15

members, and which, though it has been in existence but about three months, has raised nearly \$20. About \$5 has also been collected towards increasing the Sunday school library.

Since the meeting of the Convocation, in April, I have also preached at Dry Brook, another place, distant three miles from Rockville. The congregation here has averaged from 70 to 80 persons; the situation of this station is very favorable to the collection of a good congregation, there being quite a large district of country almost entirely destitute of any religious services. I officiate at both these stations on the same day.

Baptized, 3 adults; 1 removed; 3 remaining.

THOMAS L. RANDOLPH.

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### CHRIST CHURCH, PROVIDENCE.

The Rev. Benjamin Franklin took charge of this Church immediately after his ordination, in the autumn of 1842, and officiated with great success for several months, during which time several adults and about fifteen children were baptized.

In May the present Rector entered on the charge, and has seen 29 present at the communion, one of whom was added.

This is the only colored Church in New-England, though there are several meeting-houses of different sects in the city of Providence. The services, the Church, and the worshippers, present an appearance of order, neatness and regularity, which are seldom equalled, and can hardly be surpassed. The organist is a colored girl, under twenty years of age, and the music is excellent.

It is hoped that all persons truly interested in the welfare of this portion of the people, will attend the services, when able, see for themselves, and assist this needy branch of our vine, (which has just been received into our Convention) with their prayers and their substance. The Church of God being "the society for the reformation of the world," supplies the place of all more agitating but less fruitful movements in our age. When Onesimus was sent back by the Apostle to his master, he might have remained nominally, but could hardly have continued virtually, a slave. Let Christ be the Master of all, and men of all complexions will be brethren, and sons of one God and Father, "who hath made of one blood all nations of men that dwell on the face of the earth."

JAMES O. RICHMOND, *Rector.*



## JOHNSTON.

This place includes Simmonsville, the Fenner-place and Dry Brook, which three places form the three corners of a triangle, each side of which is a little more than a mile in length. The point at Simmonsville is most populous; that of Dry Brook least, and the Fenner-place a medium of population between the other two, contains about 250 inhabitants. Take from the centre of this triangle a sweep of two miles, and the circle, it is said, would include 2000 inhabitants. The religious denominations are the Six Principle Baptists, who number 52 communicants, and a branch of the Freewill Baptists of Olneyville. My Sunday services have been morning and afternoon, at the school-house at Simmonsville, and an evening service at the Fenner-place. At Simmonsville, the average attendance was about 50. At the Fenner-place, the dwellings in which we met were usually full. Latterly I omitted the afternoon service at Simmonsville, for the purpose of conducting a Sunday school at the Fenner-place, the attendance of which was usually between 40 and 50. To aid this measure, through the kindness of Mr. Clark, the Tract agent, upwards of 80 volumes were sent us from the High-street Congregational school library. The Sunday school at Simmonsville numbered about 30.

From January of last year, to April of the present, exclusive of my own family, 11 were admitted as members of our communion, and I found 3 when I came, making 14; with my family, 17. Baptisms, 11; marriages, 1; burials, 4.

JOHN SUDDARDS.



## H.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance reports, that the sum required to meet the current expenses of the Convention for the year, in printing the Journals, and to make up the deficiency of the last year, including a bill due Mr. H. H. Brown, for printing the proceedings of the Special Convention, April 6 past, will amount to about \$180, which amount we have apportioned among the several Churches as follows, viz.

|                    |             |                 |         |          |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------|----------|
| St. John's Church, | Providence, | -               | -       | \$22 50  |
| Grace              | "           | "               | - - - - | 22 50    |
| St. Stephen's      | "           | "               | - - - - | 12 00    |
| Trinity            | "           | Newport,        | - - - - | 18 00    |
| Zion               | "           | "               | - - - - | 13 50    |
| St. Paul's         | "           | N. Providence,  | - - - - | 9 00     |
| St. Michael's      | "           | Bristol,        | - - - - | 15 00    |
| St. Mark's         | "           | Warren,         | - - - - | 10 50    |
| Christ             | "           | Lonsdale,       | - - - - | 9 00     |
| St. James's        | "           | Woonsocket,     | - - - - | 9 00     |
| Christ             | "           | Westerly,       | - - - - | 9 00     |
| St. Paul's         | "           | Portsmouth,     | - - - - | 6 00     |
| Emmanuel           | "           | Manville,       | - - - - | 6 00     |
| St. Luke's         | "           | East-Greenwich, | - - - - | 6 00     |
| St. Paul's         | "           | Wickford,       | - - - - | 6 00     |
| Ascension          | "           | Wakefield,      | - - - - | 6 00     |
|                    |             |                 |         | <hr/>    |
|                    |             |                 |         | \$180 00 |

The Committee recommend the following:

*Resolved,* That the delegates from the different Churches now pay the several assessments.

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| S. T. NORTHAM,   | } Committee. |
| E. S. WILKINSON, |              |
| EDWIN BABCOCK,   |              |

*Providence, June 14, 1843.*

## REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON THE BISHOP'S SALARY.

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the resolution passed at the Convention in April last, appropriating \$400 for the Bishop's salary, Report, that they have apportioned the said sum among the respective churches in this Diocese, as follows:

|                    |             |                 |   |   |          |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|---|---|----------|
| St. John's Church, | Providence, | -               | - | - | \$50 00  |
| Grace              | "           | "               | - | - | 50 00    |
| St. Stephen's      | "           | "               | - | - | 26 75    |
| Trinity            | "           | Newport,        | - | - | 40 00    |
| Zion               | "           | "               | - | - | 30 00    |
| St. Paul's         | "           | N. Providence,  | - | - | 20 00    |
| St. Michael's      | "           | Bristol,        | - | - | 33 25    |
| St. Mark's         | "           | Warren,         | - | - | 23 25    |
| Christ             | "           | Lonsdale,       | - | - | 20 00    |
| St. James's        | "           | Woonsocket,     | - | - | 20 00    |
| Christ             | "           | Westerly,       | - | - | 20 00    |
| St. Paul's         | "           | Portsmouth,     | - | - | 13 50    |
| Emmanuel           | "           | Manville,       | - | - | 13 50    |
| St. Luke's         | "           | East-Greenwich, | - | - | 13 50    |
| St. Paul's         | "           | Wickford,       | - | - | 13 50    |
| Ascension          | "           | Wakefield,      | - | - | 13 50    |
|                    |             |                 |   |   | \$400 75 |

The Committee recommend, that the aforesaid assessment be collected and paid over to the Treasurer of this Convention on or before the 1st day of October next.

|                  |   |            |
|------------------|---|------------|
| S. T. NORTHAM,   | } | Committee: |
| E. S. WILKINSON, |   |            |
| EDWIN BABCOCK,   |   |            |



## I.

**Rules of Order and a Standing Order of Business,**

OF THE

Convention of the Church in the Diocese of Rhode-Island.

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1. RULES OF ORDER.

1. When the President takes the chair, no member shall continue standing, or shall afterwards stand up, except to address the chair.

2. The members of the Convention shall sit in pews contiguous to one another—the delegates of each church occupying one pew.

3. No member shall absent himself from the Convention, unless he have leave, or be unable to attend.

4. No leave of absence shall be indefinitely granted to any member, unless full and sufficient reasons be given by him to the Convention.

5. All special committees shall be appointed by the President, unless otherwise ordered by the Convention.

6. A question being once determined, shall stand as the judgment of the Convention, and shall not again be drawn into debate during the session, unless with the consent of two thirds of the members present.

7. When any member is about to speak, or deliver any matter to the Convention, he shall rise, and with due respect address himself to the President, and confine himself strictly to the point in debate.

8. When two members chance to rise at the same time, the President shall determine to whom the preference shall be given; and all questions of order the President shall decide—subject to an appeal to the Convention.

9. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave.

10. No motion shall be acted upon until seconded, and, when required, reduced to writing.

11. While the President is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private conversation to the interruption of the Convention.

12. Every member, who is in the Convention when any question is put, shall, on a division, be counted, unless he be personally interested in the question, or excused by the President.

13. When a motion is under consideration, no other motion shall be made, except to postpone, to amend, to divide, or to commit.

14. A motion for amendment or postponement shall be considered as the previous question, and be decided before the original motion.

15. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

16. The yeas and nays shall be called and entered on the minutes, when required by one-fifth of the members present.

17. At the request of the President, or on motion, the Convention may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole.

18. All elections, when required by two members, shall be by ballot.

19. All other questions shall be decided *viva voce*, or by hand vote, unless a ballot be called for by two members.

20. The sittings of the Convention shall be open to all persons who choose to attend, unless otherwise ordered by the Convention.

21. After the first day, the minutes of the preceding day shall be read each morning, at the opening of the Convention, and, if necessary, corrected; and, before the rising of the Convention, the whole proceedings of the session shall be read.

22. When the Convention is about to rise, every member shall keep his seat until the President leaves his chair.

23. None of the Rules of Order shall be suspended, without the consent of two thirds of the members present.

24. The foregoing Rules of Order shall be read at the opening of every Convention, and shall be of force, unless repealed by a vote of the Convention.

## II. STANDING ORDER OF BUSINESS.

After the organization of the Convention, as provided for by the Constitution, the following order of business shall be observed for the first day of the session :

I. The business incident to the organization of the Convention embracing the consideration of applications of Churches or Parishes for admission into union with the Convention; reports from special committees appointed at a preceding session of the Convention, &c.

II. Regular Annual Reports, in the following order :

1. Report from the Treasurer of the Convention.



2. Report from the Standing Committee.
3. Report from the Board of Missions.
4. Report from the Board of Education.
5. Report from the Board of Sunday Schools.
6. Parochial Reports.
7. Miscellaneous business.

The following order of business shall be observed for the second day of the Convention :

I. Miscellaneous business.

II. Elections,—

1. Of Treasurer.
2. Of Standing Committee.
3. Trustees of the General Theological Seminary.
4. Board of Education.
5. Board of Sunday Schools.
6. Delegates to the General Convention.
7. Preachers for next Convention.

Miscellaneous business.



## K.

## CONSTITUTION

OF THE

**Prot. Episcopal Church in the Diocese of R. Island,**

AS RATIFIED AND ADOPTED

AT ITS FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION, HOLDEN AT TRINITY  
CHURCH, NEWPORT, R. I. JUNE, 1841.

## ARTICLE 1.

This Church accedes to the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and also to the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Eastern Diocese.

## ARTICLE II.

There shall be a stated Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Diocese, on the second Tuesday in June, in each year, at such hour and in such place, as the Convention shall determine.—Special meetings may be called by the Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee. If the Episcopate be vacant, special meetings may be called by the Standing Committee. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting, other than is specified in the notice calling such meeting.

## ARTICLE III.

Every Convention shall be opened with prayer, followed by a sermon, or by an address from the Bishop, and the celebration of the Lord's supper, after which, the President and Secretary of the preceding Convention shall take their places, when the Secretary shall call the names of the Clergy and the Lay Delegates. The Secretary

of the Convention shall then be chosen, and the records of the preceding Convention shall be read, and the necessary committees appointed. The morning service of the Church, or a special service appointed by the Bishop, shall be performed every day during the session of the Convention.

#### ARTICLE IV.

The Bishop shall preside in the Convention; but, when absent, the President shall be chosen by ballot from among the clerical members of the Convention.

#### ARTICLE V.

The Convention shall be composed of the clergy officiating in the parishes in this Diocese; and also of such clergymen as are employed as instructors in any incorporated seminary of learning in this Diocese; and of missionaries officiating in this Diocese, under the direction of the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese; and of ministers whose age and infirmities prevent the exercise of their clerical functions; and of chaplains of the army and navy of the U. States belonging to this Diocese; and also of Lay Delegates, not exceeding four, from each parish in union with this Convention, who shall present certificates, signed by the Wardens or the parish Clerk, that they are duly chosen.

#### ARTICLE VI.

New parishes may, by a vote of this Convention, be admitted into union with it, on presenting written evidence, under the authority of the Wardens and Vestry, that they are duly organized, and accede to the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention, and also of the Convention of this Diocese.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The Convention being duly organized, the members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; and upon all questions the members shall deliberate in one body, and in voting, shall vote by individuals. But if in any case it be required by any three members, the two orders shall vote separately; and in such case the laity shall vote by congregations; and the concurrence of both orders shall be necessary to constitute a decision.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The Secretary shall be chosen by ballot from among the members

of the Convention, and he shall remain in office until the next Convention, and until the appointment of a successor.

#### ARTICLE IX.

A Treasurer, who shall be a layman, shall be elected annually, and shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Convention. It shall be his duty to render to the Convention an annual report, in writing, of his doings, and of the state of the treasury.

#### ARTICLE X.

A Standing Committee, consisting of three clergymen and three laymen, who shall be communicants of this Church, shall be appointed by the Convention annually, and shall continue in office until the election of a new committee. They shall keep a record of their proceedings, and shall report the same to the Convention at its annual meeting. A majority shall be a quorum for all purposes, except those for which the Canons of the General Convention require a larger number.

#### ARTICLE XI.

Deputies to the General Convention shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting next preceding the meeting of the General Convention, and shall continue in office at least three years. The clerical deputies shall be nominated by the clergy, and the lay deputies by the laity; and the persons so nominated shall then be chosen by a concurrent vote of the two orders. Should any delegate decline such appointment, he shall, within one month after his appointment, so inform the Bishop, or, (if there be no Bishop,) the President of the Standing Committee; or, should any lay delegate be deceased, due notice shall be given accordingly by the Rector of the parish; whereupon the Bishop, or (if there be no Bishop,) the Standing Committee, shall forthwith provide a substitute.

#### ARTICLE XII.

Whenever the Episcopate shall become vacant, the Standing Committee shall call a special Convention, to be held in the city of Providence, within three months after such vacancy shall have occurred, and shall give written notice of the same, at least four weeks previous to said meeting, to each parish in union with the Convention. The Convention, thus assembled, may immediately proceed to the election of a Bishop, or make any other provision for the episcopal supervision of the Diocese.



## ARTICLE XIII.

The election of a Bishop shall proceed in the following manner:—The two orders having separated, the clergy shall appoint, by ballot, a person for that office; whereupon their choice shall be made known to the order of Lay Delegates; and, if approved of by them, the candidate so appointed shall be declared to be duly elected. In any such election, a majority of each order shall determine the choice.

## ARTICLE XIV.

Canons for the government of the Church, and Rules of Order for the conducting of business, may be adopted from time to time by the Convention.

## ARTICLE XV.

The mode of altering this Constitution shall be as follows: A proposition of amendment shall be introduced in writing, and considered in the Convention, and if approved of, shall lie over to the next Convention, and if again approved of in that Convention by a majority of the two orders voting separately, the change shall take place, and the Constitution so altered, shall be valid and obligatory.

## C A N O N S

ADOPTED AT

## THE FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

## PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

HOLDEN AT TRINITY CHURCH, NEWPORT, R. I. JUNE 8 AND 9, 1841.

## CANON I.

*Offences for which Ministers may be tried.*

Disorderly, scandalous, and immoral conduct; neglect of duty; engaging in any worldly avocations palpably incompatible with the clerical office and the due discharge of pastoral duty; disregard of the Constitution and Canons of the General and Diocesan Conventions; a continued non-attendance at the Annual Convention of the Church in this Diocese; disseminating or countenancing opinions contrary to the doctrines of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States,—are offences for which a clergyman ought to be censured, and for which, when accused, he may be brought to trial.

## CANON II.

*Mode of trying Clergymen.*

If any clergyman of this Church offend in any one or more of the instances enumerated in the foregoing Canon, complaint may be made to the Standing Committee, which shall be done in writing by two persons, who shall be communicants, and one of whom shall be a presbyter of this Church.

The Standing Committee, if they deem the charges well founded, shall present said clergyman to the Bishop, for trial.

The Bishop shall thereupon summon a jury of three presbyters, who shall be the judges both of the law and the facts: the Standing Committee shall act as prosecutors in the case, and shall give the accused a copy of the charges presented to the Bishop, and also sixty day's notice of the time and place of the trial. Neither party shall employ a layman as advocate.

If the accused shall not appear at the trial, the judgment of the court shall proceed against him by default, and he shall be suspended from the exercise of his clerical functions for the space of six months. And if, during that period, he shall not apply for a trial, he shall then be degraded from the ministry.

The judgment of the court shall in all cases be made known in writing to the accused, and to the Vestry of his church, together with the charges and specifications, and an outline of the evidence produced on the trial, if it shall be demanded by the accused.

If the Bishop approve the judgment, he shall within thirty days, proceed to administer the discipline prescribed by the court.

Should the Bishop disapprove the decision of the court, he may, at his discretion, summon a new court, and order a new trial; and the judgment of the second court shall be final, and the Bishop shall then proceed to execute it as above.

### CANON III.

#### *Discipline of Communicants.*

Communicants who shall neglect the holy communion, or an attendance on public worship, for the space of six months, without a reason satisfactory to the Rector of the church, shall be suspended from the communion. For any other offences, the manner of discipline shall be as follows:

The Rector shall first admonish the offender; and if there shall, within a reasonable time, appear no satisfactory proof of repentance, the Rector shall forthwith repel him from the communion.

In every instance of repelling, the Rector shall give notice to the Bishop, (as provided in the 42d Canon of the General Convention.) Should the communicant so repelled, appeal to the Bishop, the Bishop shall summon a council of four presbyters, of which he shall be President, to decide upon the case. Should the council reverse the judgment of the Rector, the repelled communicant is restored; and, should they confirm his decision, the communicant is repelled.

## CANON IV.

*Board of Missions.*

The missionary operations of the Church in this Diocese shall be conducted by a Board of Missions, to be called the Missionary Convocation of the Church in Rhode-Island, consisting of such of the Clergy in the Diocese, entitled to seats in the Convention, as shall pledge to the treasury of the Board, for the missionary purposes of the same, an annual sum, equal to at least one tenth of their respective salaries. The Board shall report annually to the Convention their proceedings, together with an account of their receipts and expenditures, and a general statement of the condition and prospects of their missionary stations.

The Bishop of the Diocese shall be, *ex officio*, President of the Board, and no appointment of Missionaries shall be made, unless approved of by him, according to the condition of the 30th Canon of the General Convention.

Whenever a Missionary is to be employed without a call from the parish, the Bishop shall have a concurrent voice in his appointment.

The Treasurer of this Board shall be a layman of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

## CANON V.

*Board of Education.*

There shall be appointed annually by the Convention, a Board of Education, consisting of two clergymen and one layman, to whom shall be intrusted the appointment of young men, to be educated for the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church. A report of their doings shall be presented annually to the Convention, and pledges shall be solicited from the clergy and laity of the several Churches, for the objects of the Board.

The beneficiaries of the Board shall be subject to its direction and control, except in those instances when a church or an individual shall alone establish a scholarship, contributing a sum not less than seventy-five dollars, when the church or individual so contributing shall appoint and direct the education of the incumbent. If any scholarship so instituted, shall be vacant for the space of six months, the money pledged for its support shall still be paid and applied to the general purposes of the Board.

## CANON VI.

*Board of Sunday Schools.*

There shall be appointed annually, by the Convention, a Board of Sunday Schools of the Church within the Diocese, to consist of two clergymen and one layman. The said Board shall organize themselves by electing a Chairman and Secretary, and shall make an annual statistical report of the Sunday schools within the Diocese, accompanied with such facts and suggestions as they shall deem to be interesting, and calculated to promote the Sunday school cause.

## CANON VII.

*Bishop's Fund.*

Contributions of the Parishes in this Diocese for the support of the Bishop, shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Convention, who shall report annually to this Convention.

## CANON VIII.

*Alterations of the Canons.*

Forasmuch as frequent legislation, or any needless fluctuation in the rules and regulations of the Church is to be avoided, as being both troublesome and dangerous, it is hereby declared that no alteration in the Canons of the Diocese shall be made, unless it be approved and confirmed by a majority of both orders.



## NOTICE.

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The next Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Rhode-Island, will be held in Zion Church, Newport, on the second Tuesday in June, 1844, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

AZEL D. COLE, *Secretary of the Convention,*

WOONSOCKET, July, 1843.









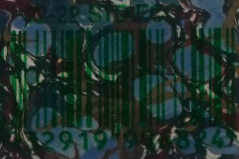
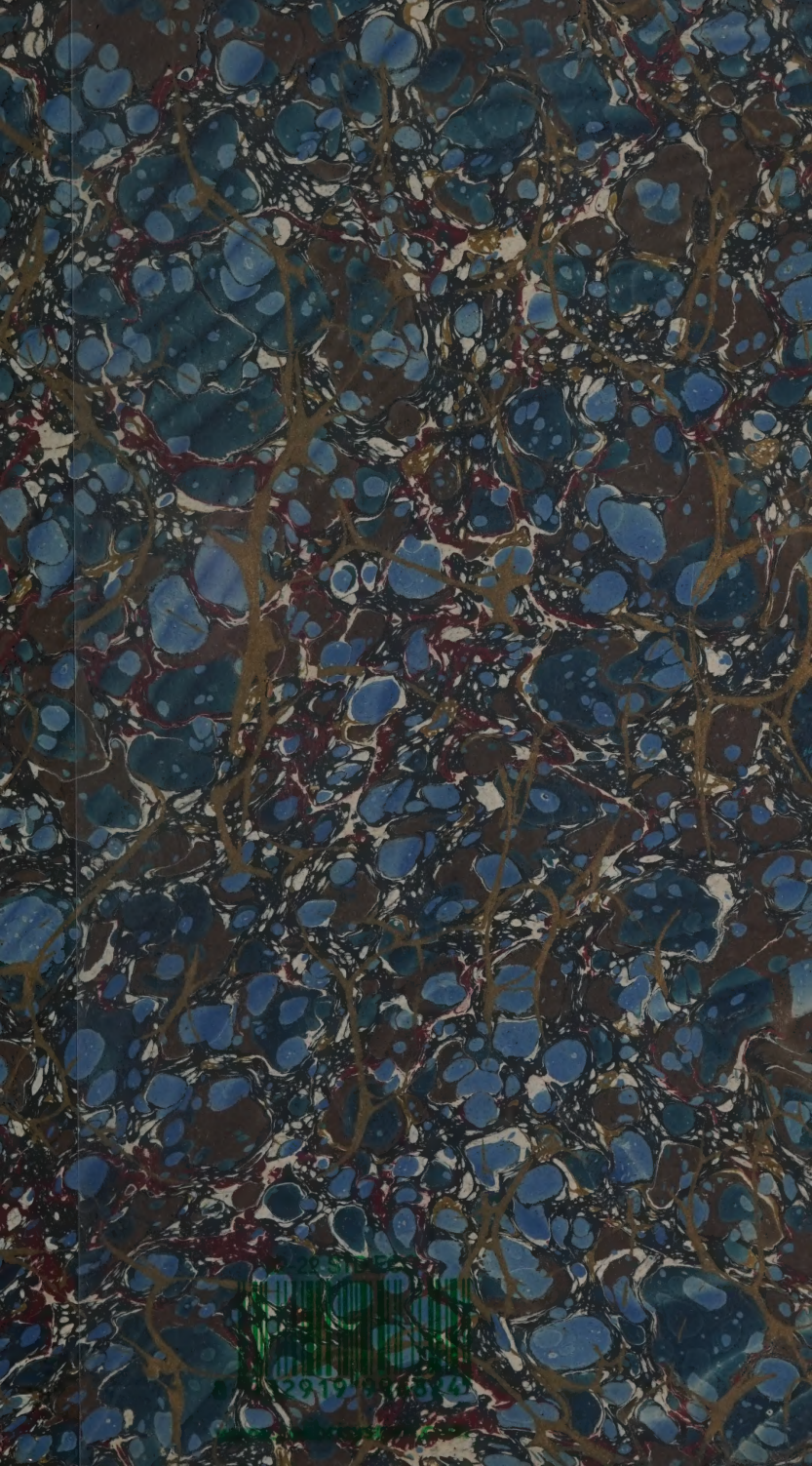












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